

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND

China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. LI.]

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, 30TH JUNE, 1900.

No. 26

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ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The American mail of the 29th May arrived per P. M. steamer *City of Peking*, on the 26th June (28 days); and the German mail of the 27th May arrived, per N. D. L. steamer *Stuttgart*, on the 26th June (31 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

The news of the week from the North will be found in the telegrams from our correspondents on p. 443.

H. E. Sir Henry A. Blake, Governor of Hongkong, is expected at Hongkong by the M. M. steamer *Laos* this (Saturday) afternoon.

It is considered not at all unlikely that through railway communication will be established between Penang and Bagan Serai by the 1st of August next.

Mr. H. A. Ramsden, late British Vice-Consul at Manila, arrived at Nagasaki on the 18th inst. from Shanghai, and left on the 26th inst. for Kobe by train.

It is reported from Manila that Cavite has been transferred from military to naval control. The troops will be withdrawn. The military prison will remain, as also will the Civil Government within the territory transferred.

The murder of Mr. Haynes, Magistrate of Gaya, British North Borneo, is reported by Straits papers of the 21st inst. The deed was committed by a Dyak and is not referred to any political cause. The murderer escaped.

It is reported from New York, on the authority of a statement alleged to have been made by a high Siamese naval officer, who is now on a visit to San Francisco, that the King of Siam will next year pay a visit to the United States.

It is generally assumed, says the *Japan Mail*, that Marquis Yamagata has postponed his resignation in view of the serious problems presenting themselves in the field of foreign affairs. Under any circumstances it is not probable that the plan proposed by the Liberals could have been put into a working shape.

The *Foochow Daily Echo* of the 16th inst. says:—"We learn that Mr. Gustav Siemssen, Consul for Germany, has been honoured by the Emperor with the decoration of the Red Eagle. Mr. Siemssen was warmly congratulated by his numerous friends at the Club last evening."

L'Echo de Chine says of the reported burning of the Roman Catholic cathedral at Peking:—"We think that the Nantan cathedral is meant. The Peitan building seems to have been protected by a small guard and its destruction would argue a great massacre, for a multitude of people had taken refuge there."

According to the *Ostasiatische Lloyd*, the *Pioneer* had great trouble in passing the Yangtze rapids; the strongest current met with being about 12 knots. Through the rapids the captain had to be used. The passage up took 78 hours, not counting the detention. The junks proved a great nuisance. But even if some difficulties have yet to be overcome, the success of the first trip was undoubted.

Sir Alexander Swettenham returned to Singapore on the 21st inst. after a visit to Brunei. The idea is prevalent, according to the *Singapore Free Press*, that Brunei is to be annexed, or, to put it in diplomatic language, a resident is to be placed there after style of the Malay Peninsula. In connection with Brunei's residency it is also reported the British Government is intent on taking over the administration of Labuan from the Chartered Company.

An American journal is responsible for the statement that an agent of the Japanese Government is in Massachusetts buying arms and equipment for an army, to be placed in the field at once. He is stated to have given some startling facts as to the scale on which Japan is carrying on her preparations for the coming conflict. She is preparing quietly to put an army of 500,000 well-armed and well-drilled soldiers in the field, and within two years the Japanese Army will be one of the most formidable in point of numbers and equipment of any armed force in the world.

The Imperial Government Railways Department of Japan gave orders during last year to England and America for the following railway material, which is to be imported during the fiscal year ending March 31st, 1901: Locomotives 50; cars, \$1,700,000; rails 26,000 tons, \$2,300,000; 100 feet bridge girders 49 spans, \$740,000; 200 feet bridge girders 11 spans, \$250,000; other bridge girders 7,000 tons, \$250,000; total \$5,240,000. Most of the bridge girders and rails are being made in the Pencoyd Iron Works, America, while Neilson and Dubs, England, are named as the makers of all the locomotives.

On the 22nd inst. H. M. cruiser *Pique* and the torpedo-boat destroyer *Otter* arrived at Hongkong. Besides the *Furious* and *Diadem*, the cruisers *Dido* and *Isis* are coming out to reinforce the China Squadron, while the transport *Jelunga* is bringing out details for the *Wivern* and other reserve vessels now in the harbour. The *Bonaventure* still awaits orders, being now under the command of Capt. J. C. Sawle, who arrived by the *Valetta* on the 22nd. On the 23rd H.M.S. *Redpole* left Hongkong for Canton. On the 26th the *Pigmy* arrived from Manila, leaving next day with the *Pique* and the *Hart* for Woosung and the North. The *Plover* is on her way from Manila to Hongkong.

The *N.-C. Daily News* calls attention to the fact that the Chinese vernacular paper *Hupao* issued an Extra at 3 p.m. on Sunday last announcing the capture of the Taku Forts by the allied forces. "As the North Forts were only taken on Sunday," says our contemporary, "and there was only telegraphic communication from Shanghai as far as Chefoo, this was a remarkably good piece of journalism, and tends, with other circumstances, to the belief that the wires are not broken at all."

Telegraphic communication between Hongkong and Macao was interrupted on the 27th instant. With regard to communication with the north the Telegraph Companies have been informed that a despatch service between Chefoo and Taku has been organized at the Chefoo Telegraph Office, under the control of one of their European Staff. Although telegrams can only be accepted at "sender's risk," every effort, the Companies state, will be made to ensure their delivery.

The military authorities have received the following cablegram as to the regiments which are coming from India to China:—"Regiments intended permanent increase garrison Hongkong are 23rd Bombay and 23rd Madras Infantry, each consisting of 12 British Officers, 1 medical officer, 16 native officers, 712 rank and file. Left wing of 7th Bengal Infantry sailed June 25th; remainder will follow, June 29th. The 24th Punjab Infantry sails on July 2nd. Two regiments will be available then for local defence pending arrival of special regiments allotted for duty. General Sir Alfred Gaselee, Commanding Officer, sails on July 2nd. Two regiments detailed for Hongkong will bring cooking vessels and cherpoys (beds)."

A letter is printed in the *Kobe Chronicle* from Mr. Sands, the American adviser to the Korean Household Department, which must finally set at rest the stories to which such wide currency was given by the Japanese papers, alleging that An and Kwong, the two Koreans recently executed, were tortured before the capital sentence was carried into effect. There is not only the certificate given by an English doctor, Mr. E. H. Baldock, but there is the additional evidence of other foreign witnesses, who all state that the bodies showed no marks of ill-treatment. It may be that it is because this evidence has been laid before the Japanese Government and found satisfactory that no further steps have been taken to resent what at first sight appeared a deliberate flouting of Japan.

The *Jiji* publishes a telegram from Seoul, dated 17th inst., to the effect that the report regarding the despatch of Japanese soldiers to China, has produced a marked effect at Seoul, and Japan is recovering her position in the eyes of the Koreans. Mr. Sands, American Counsellor of the Imperial Household, has submitted a representation to the Emperor in which he states that Russia is attempting to injure the interests of Korea and has already snatched some ports; and, on the other hand, Japan treats Korea as if the country were her territory. Therefore Korea's independence is threatened, no matter whether she depends on Japan or Russia. M. Pavloff, Russian Minister, is understood to be working very determinedly in order to secure Mr. Sands' retirement, while outwardly he assumes a friendly attitude and even entertains the Ministers for Japan and America.

THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S ATTITUDE IN CHINA.

(Daily Press, 23rd June.)

Even the most careless observer of current events cannot fail to grasp the fact that the most dangerous point about the present difficulty at Peking is the lurid light it has thrown on the divergencies which have all through existed amongst the Great Powers, but which, under the present strain, are being magnified to well nigh breaking point. Were it a simple case of putting down a dangerous riot, there is at the moment a sufficient force on the spot to restore order; an untrained mob, as is at present the condition of the *I-Ho Chuan*, could do little against a well trained and united body of troops, and as soldiers the mass of the Chinese army—we do not refer to the foreign-drilled troops—is beneath contempt. There are, however, other influences at work to prevent this simple settlement, and amongst others we may notice that strange deference to shadowy power which has marked, and hindered, the progress of the troops to the relief of Peking. To the outsider the delay seems inexplicable. There is little difficulty to be encountered in marching the 80 odd miles necessary to be traversed across the plain of Pechili. At this time of year especially, when no floods are to be anticipated, and the whole country is complaining of unwonted drought, it seems past belief that a march, which ordinarily should be accomplished in four days, should have been spread out over weeks. Not the least remarkable part of the whole proceeding is the humble manner in which the authorities of the railway were at first approached for permission to advance to the relief of the Ministers in Peking, acknowledged to live from day to day in imminent danger of their lives, and we can only attribute this strange conduct to that habit of self-effacement which has throughout led us in Peking to set up for ourselves a fetish, which incontinently we have fallen down and worshipped as a powerful deity. Worse even than the influence of this superstition on ourselves has been its effect on our relations with the other Powers, whom we have throughout credited with a similar belief. Under cover of it, Russia and France, not to speak of Germany, not being gifted with the same faculty of self-abnegation, have been able to carry on their sap, and have by methods recommending themselves more directly to Chinese instincts, been in a position to ingratiate themselves at Court. The position is not creditable to British astuteness, and the manner in which Admiral Seymour has permitted himself to be appalled by shadows of his own imagination reflects no honour on the Service. From the slender information we receive day by day from Europe, an equal want of appreciation of the importance of the interests at stake is noticeable in the replies of the Foreign Office to interrogations in the Houses of Parliament; and the parrot-like persistency with which we are informed that the "Powers are acting in perfect accord" is not re-assuring. In fact, the Foreign Office is on its old tracks, and plainly, discrediting the warnings of its Minister at Peking, has been going down to Portland Place, where in the interested soothings of Sir CHIH-CHEN LU FUNG LU it was found infinite grace and satisfaction. This strange hallucination of so able a statesman as Lord SALISBURY is one of those curious phenomena which from time arise to show us that even the best of us is human, and did it end there we might smile at the result. Unfortunately the present is a time for action, not discus-

sion, and while we are pondering over the pros and cons of the situation, events are progressing, and we are daily finding our position more untenable. For once indeed it seemed that some inkling of the true danger had struck our statesmen, and troops were, somewhat tardily it is true, ordered up to Tientsin; but with this unwonted effort we seem to have exhausted ourselves.

Lately we have commented on the fact that our interests in the Pacific are with the growth of our Colonies in Australia and Canada yearly expanding, and that our reply to this is a deliberate reduction of our fleet. Did we see the slightest sign that the Home Government has come to recognise this undeniable fact, we might build a theory on it; but on the contrary the only indication of action perceptible is an occasional spurt of activity, to be followed almost immediately by a return to the same semi-torpid condition as at first. To all outward appearance England is in the most commanding position with regard to China. In addition to the fleets and garrisons on the spot, unfortunately momentarily reduced when most required, we are within call of both the Australian and Pacific Squadrons—we have a line of garrisons extending from Hongkong to India, where we have at a moment's notice a powerful and well equipped army of troops only too anxious to have an opportunity of showing their prowess. We should expect that with these means at hand the Yangtze at least would quickly be in a position for defence, and that some care should be taken to indicate that Shanghai was worthy to be considered. By last advices we find two gunboats in the river and Shanghai left (until the *Daphne* arrived there yesterday) to the care of an unarmed surveying ship. Whatever be the immediate result of operations being undertaken at Peking, it is evident that there are so many eventualities to be considered that for many years the position must remain in an explosive condition; and that eventually we shall need the presence of large reinforcements to maintain the present *status quo*. The case is not one of panic, but of continuing policy; to our already numerous responsibilities another of no serious weight has been added, and our Government all the while refuses to see what to every other Power is self evident. This is the simple political outlook we have to face; are we prepared? The Yangtze Viceroys are showing themselves, so far as their means allow, equal to the occasion; and if we are ready to afford them some unequivocal sign of our own readiness, something may yet be possible.

AFFAIRS IN NORTH CHINA.

(Daily Press, 25th June.)

It is with feelings of great satisfaction that everyone will hail Mr. BRODRICK's statement in the House of Commons that the troops already chosen for service in China will be very considerably supplemented. This tardy recognition of the dangers of the situation, though it will not excuse past inactivity and disregard of all facts, at least may be taken to indicate that the recent policy which has nearly wrecked our position in China has given place to a rational determination to play a leading part as of old. Unfortunately weeks must elapse before the urgently needed reinforcements can arrive, and in the meantime there is a great task which calls for immediate treatment. Since the successful bombardment of the Taku Forts on Sunday, the 17th instant, which many hoped would be a prelude to a rapid combined advance of the allies on Peking, the

situation has completely changed. So far from any such advance having been made, the vanguard under Admiral SEYMOUR has not been heard of for more than a week, and though persistent rumours have been circulated that it has reached Peking there is no reliable information whatever to that effect. The reports which have reached this Colony are echoes of the Shanghai reports, which are not even accepted as authentic in Shanghai. Among the many stories afloat in our northern neighbour was one of a Chinese official telegram on the 19th inst., to the effect that a couple of days before the British flag was visible over the *Chen-yang* gate of Peking, from which it was inferred that either the Legations were holding out still or the 1,700 mixed Foreign troops had arrived. But this brings us down no later than Sunday week.

Still more ominous, if possible, than the silence of Admiral SEYMOUR is the news about Tientsin. This town was generally imagined secure in the hands of the combined forces landed from the fleets, to say nothing of the Russian and Japanese troops landed at Taku or on the point of arriving. But it turns out that this was quite a mistake. Tientsin has been practically isolated it would seem, from Taku, for two days, probably Tuesday and Wednesday, or it may be Wednesday and Thursday; the Concessions, English, French, and German, have been subjected to an incessant bombardment by the forty-pounders of the Chinese regular army, with such effect that they are reduced to ruins; and the Russian troops at the railway-station have been brought to desperate Straits. There is much in this story which we cannot understand as yet and details will be most anxiously awaited. Two things are obvious, that the Chinese troops are now fighting heart and soul against the foreigners, and that their numbers have been under rather than over-estimated. To the Russians has fallen the principal part in the defence and relief of Tientsin and they are well equipped for the task. An eye-witness, speaking of the arrival of the Russians at Tientsin on the 14th instant, says that they "created the greatest stir. Their magnificent horses and big guns, the wagons, and piles of hay and stores took up all the big platform for the greater part of the day. They took possession of the Bridge leading into the Settlements and repaired and strengthened it for the passage of their guns, and for the time regulated traffic as if they had come to take charge entirely." It is earnestly to be hoped that a loyal co-operation between the various component parts of the international forces may continue and that we shall hear no more of friction between the different nationals, such as has been hinted at by various writers; and, lastly, that our force on the scene of action may be brought as speedily as possible up to a footing worthy of the Empire they represent.

(Daily Press, 26th June.)

From two sources, from the official despatch of Admiral BRUCE to the home Government and from the intelligence which has reached Shanghai from the north, we know that the Chinese troops have repulsed the attempts made to reach Tientsin from the coast. The Shanghai telegrams furnish the further details that the Russians made the first essay—this we knew before—and that the Germans followed them up, but without effecting any good. The news will be received with astonishment by those who were inclined to ridicule the idea of a stubborn resistance being offered by the Chinese to well-armed European soldiers and marines.

But the fact is that the allies have before them a very different lot of men from those who went down before the Japanese in 1895. China has now at her command a vastly increased force of drilled men, specially picked by their European instructors and armed with modern weapons which they have learnt to handle with precision. In view of this fact it seems that the troops of the Powers have attempted to meet them in insufficient numbers, though there would hardly seem at first sight any necessity for this, considering the number of vessels now in the Gulf of Pechili and the forces stated to be ready for immediate action. It is plain that the numbers of the Russians on the spot must have been exaggerated, or else they have failed to make full use of their resources. The whole conduct of the allied forces remains most puzzling. It is doubtless very satisfactory for the home Government to hear from Admiral Bruce that "the Admirals are working in perfect accord," but if they accomplish nothing, all the accord in the world will be worth nothing also. Accord in these circumstances is only valuable as resulting in action. We could hardly be charged with impatience, by those who remember all we have been hearing of the immense demonstration of the combined fleets off Taku and the poor quality of the opposition, did we wonder what the demonstration has done since the action at Taku. But the time, it may be said, is rather one for a display of patience and for looking the facts squarely in the face. The opposition is far more obstinate than was anticipated, and the allies have not yet enough men to overcome it; in the course of a week or so they will be better able to cope with the difficulties before them. And what of Admiral Seymour in the meanwhile, who has put his head in the lion's mouth? He cannot be left to his fate, and the Admirals at Taku have no intention of leaving him. But unfortunately he is cut off from the fleet far more completely than he was when first the line behind him was wrecked. Then the allies commanded the railway for some distance outside Tientsin. Now they are not even in touch with Tientsin. We hear of no grand combined action directed to the relief of Tientsin. The third detachment, with whom are the Fusiliers and the *Terrible's* men, may accomplish the difficult task, but we cannot but wonder why, instead of three separate attempts by different nations, one united effort has not been made. It would prove more "accord" than a hundred despatches.

(Daily Press, 29th June.)

From the telegrams which we publish this morning it appears that, although Admiral Seymour is back in Tientsin, the account which credits him with having rescued the Ministers at Peking is not quite correct. It is reported, however, from a reliable source that the German Minister at least is now in Tientsin—a fact which may account for the earliest intelligence of recent events having reached the local German firms. As to the representatives of the other Powers, definite information, apart from the native report which our correspondent sends us, is still lacking. Admiral Seymour has only got back to Tientsin with heavy losses, no less than 62 of his men having been killed and 312 wounded; a very large proportion out of the 800 odd with whom he started on his dangerous journey. It may be, indeed, that the second trainload, which followed him on the 11th instant, succeeded in reaching him, but we have no certain information

on this point. In any case, it is plain that he was even harder pressed by the Chinese than we had been led to believe. The only good news to compensate for the disappointment which is felt at the future of the Admiral is the intelligence that Tientsin has not after all suffered much from the long bombardment by the Imperial artillery. Indeed, as will be seen, it is doubted whether any loss of life has been incurred at all. The portion of the town which suffered was not the old Concessions, but the more recent extension, in which the United States Consulate stands. The bombardment, such as it is, still continues, but there is now at Tientsin a large foreign force and further reinforcements are due. The railway staff is ready to repair the line and an advance may be expected very soon. It is difficult to know what value to attach to the Imperial "alarm" at the preparations of the allies. It seems to come late in the day. If, however, the message can be taken to imply that the Legations are still intact—as they are to be protected "at all costs"—we have good reason for satisfaction.

THE DEFENCE OF HONGKONG.

(Daily Press, 27th June.)

It is a positive relief to learn, on the authority of the Hon. F. H. MAY, that some of the guns have at length been placed in position in our forts. At the meeting of the Finance Committee held on Monday, over which he presided as chairman, Mr. MAY, referring to the vote for \$2,300 in aid of the vote "Contribution towards Defence Work," which had been postponed at the request of the senior unofficial member, who desired more information about it, said he was now in a position to state "that the guns were placed and the work completed at 'Stonecutter's and Belcher's Point Lower Battery,' but the guns had not yet arrived 'for Lyeemun central battery. His Excellency the ACTING GOVERNOR had informed him, however, that the guns were 'on their way.' On the principle of being thankful for small mercies, we are truly glad to know that part of the defences are properly armed and that the remainder of the guns are on their way out to Hongkong. It goes without saying that these guns should have been supplied years ago. It is too a very patent fact that there should, also years ago, have been a sufficient garrison to man these forts. There are not gunners enough to work the guns and provide for contingencies, and there is nothing like enough infantry to protect the islands, to say nothing of the territory on the mainland. We are totally unprovided with breechloading field-guns of calibre sufficient to meet even the Chinese artillery, and some of the Maxims have been sent home for alterations. Why is it that emergencies always find the War Office unprepared? The hand-to-mouth policy of that Department is simply disgraceful and utterly inexcusable, because there is no lack of funds. Instead of being ahead of all other nations in arms and armament we seem always to be behind. Much of the loss of life in South Africa has been due to the ineptitude and folly of the War Office. The same mistakes are likely to be repeated in North China. In this Colony, out of our slender garrison—purposely kept below its nominal paper strength by the sages at the War Office—we have already despatched upwards of 700 men to Taku, leaving barely 2,000 for the defence of the Colony. It is true that an expeditionary force of ten thousand men has been ordered to China from India, two regiments of which

are detailed for garrison duty in Hongkong, but it will probably be nearly three weeks before they arrive here, and very much may happen in that period. The foreign settlements at Tientsin have virtually been destroyed, and it may be the turn of other Treaty Ports next; even Shanghai feels anything but secure, as may be gathered from the fact that eighty to ninety ladies and children are on their way hither as refugees. If Shanghai should appeal to Hongkong, therefore, for assistance it is not likely we should refuse, and another thousand of our garrison may consequently have to proceed to the Model Settlement at any time. Meantime, though we do not want to be alarmists, we have our own position to consider. Fortunately, no doubt, for this Colony, His Excellency LI HUNG-CHANG is not proceeding North, and he will keep the peace so long as he can, or until he receives instructions from the so-called Imperial Government that China is at war with the Western Powers, when he might feel it incumbent upon him, if he wished to retain office, to close the river to trade, capture any foreign ships or troops he could lay hands on, and suspend intercourse with foreigners. The result might be the letting loose of armed bands on the mainland to invade the New Territory, and possibly attempts to foment riots within the island of Hongkong. We do not say this will happen; we hope and trust that His Excellency LI will see the policy of maintaining not only order in his provinces but pacific relations with his neighbours, no matter what instructions may come down from Peking. But we ought to be prepared for all eventualities; we should leave nothing to chance which we might have to regret in ashes later on, as has been the case too often before through under-valuing the enemy or giving him credit for magnanimity and fair play he never possessed or thought of. Every contingency should be carefully considered and provided for without fuss or panic. The great probability is that in this at present peaceful isle we shall hear nothing but the reports of the operations and see the troops pass through; even the faintest rumble of far-off artillery may never reach our ears. At the same time let us keep our powder dry, our volunteers exercised and at practice at the ranges, our defences efficiently manned, our police very much on the *qui vive*, and repose no faith in Chinese assurances of friendliness, while displaying neither resentment nor alarm at what is proceeding. This is the attitude we ought to assume, and if consistently maintained it will serve to ward off any incipient riots or hostile demonstrations in the possible event of the area of hostilities widening by and bye.

THE STABLE ELEMENT IN CHINA.

(Daily Press, 29th June.)

It is instructive to note how quickly the centre of gravity and centre of interest has changed within the last three weeks from South Africa to China. Fortunately, the campaign against the Boers has already passed from a regular war to a petty guerilla contest; and though in their folly and ignorance of the affairs of the world, the Boers are still carrying on a useless contest, the rest of the world have ceased to trouble themselves about the details of a war already looked upon as decided. The war in China, however, possesses points of interest to the European Powers exceeding far that in South Africa, for in it is felt to rest the solution of the problem of Asia, and whether England or Russia is for the future to be consi-

dered as the paramount Power; and it is this position that, perfectly comprehended by the other Powers, England herself appears inclined to ignore. Even the United States, which till lately had not essayed an interest in Oriental politics, have been beforehand, and in ordering at once reinforcements from Manila have declared to the world that America is not going to be indifferent to the fate of China. Somewhat erroneously we hear of the struggle against the disorders of the North spoken of as a war against China, and we are constantly from sources that should be better informed hearing of declarations of war. As a fact, we have no quarrel against China; and if our Ministry had remembered that our grievances were not against the nation, but proceeded from a small and universally detested faction at the Capital, who had usurped the functions of government, we should not have been in the ignominious position of finding ourselves foiled at every turn by the petty intrigues of an ignorant and vicious woman. Meanwhile it is some slight satisfaction to find that the great satraps of the central provinces, who at all times have opposed by such constitutional means as were in their power, without having recourse to violence, the upstart at Peking, have all along been on the side of order. But little had perhaps been expected of the aged Viceroy LIU KUNYI, and it is therefore in the highest degree satisfactory to discover that he, with a moral courage rare under such circumstances anywhere, and in China almost unknown, has throughout dared to impugn the conduct of Peking; and has even had the courage to declare that he was in person prepared to restore order in the Metropolitan province. There is, in fact, even in the degenerate China of our days an element, and an important one, which it would be well for us not to ignore, working for the cause of order; and the want of appreciation of this fact has been one of the numerous instances of incapacity, which even his greatest admirer must lay at the feet of Lord SALISBURY's administration, when the subject for administration came to be China. In point of fact we are not at war with China, nor is there any occasion, if our Ministers are capable of rising to the situation, why we should be at war. This is really the fundamental difference between our natural policy and that which has been actuating one or more of the Continental states. Where the hunger for mere territory, which is the besetting sin of more than one of the European nations, sways the policy of the state, there is a temptation to see in every affront a cause of war; simply because war supplies the supposed justification required for seizing territory. The very evident attempt on the part of Russia to foster the feeling that the country is engaged in a holy war against China has already much hampered the other Powers, and has undoubtedly led to delay in the relief of the Legations. While Russia has been planning occasion for interference in force, the British Government has scarcely shown itself alive to this feature of the situation; and Russia it may be noticed has been arming herself *cap-à-pie* for a supposed position, which except in her own imagination does not exist. It is this, even more than the possible dangers of the situation itself, which is an ordinary Jacquard rising, that renders it necessary that the nations standing on the side of order should find themselves fully prepared for eventualities. The getting rid of the intrusive Dowager and the restoration of the Emperor to his Throne should be the first step taken, and in this it is to be remembered we have

the prestige of the powerful satraps of the Yangtze on our side. They are the elements we should rely on; and fortunately they have, in the resources of their provinces alone, the means of establishing under the legitimate Emperor a stable and respectable government. And this leads naturally to another, but equally important, subject and that is the position of the capital. At all times the remote situation of Peking has made it a hotbed of intrigue: this is no modern discovery and was equally the case in medieval times as in the present. The vagaries of the Empress Dowager would have been impossible in the freer air of Nanking; and the welfare of the nation, no less than respectable tradition points to Nanking or Hangchow as the proper centre. The well known desire of the usurper to shift her Court to Singan, shows that what she and her reactionary party most dread is the light of day; and as she has unconsciously given the hint, it would be wise to follow it up. The Emperor is understood to have entertained such a project, and policy, no less than convenience dictates the change as necessary to the growth of a good understanding.

AN INTERVIEW WITH H.E. LI HUNG-CHANG.

HIS OPINIONS ON THE CRISIS.

On the 19th inst. the Canton correspondent of the *Daily Press* sent the important news that H.E. Li Hung-chang, the Viceroy of the Two Kwangs, had been ordered by Her Majesty the Empress-Dowager, to vacate his post and proceed at once to Peking.

The impression conveyed by this was that the aged Viceroy, who, in the opinion of many competent to judge, had been sent from the north to be out of the way of Empress-Dowager and her plans, was found once again to be the only man in China able to extricate his country from the difficulties into which it had been plunged. He was the man to save the situation and his Empire's "face."

It was reported he would leave Canton on Friday, 22nd inst., and as the necessity for his presence at Peking must be serious indeed that would remove him at such a juncture from a scene so long regarded as the birthplace of rebellion in China, his opinions, if he could be induced to give them, would be of far-reaching importance, and might indeed explain the existing extraordinary crisis.

I therefore determined to interview the man who was selected to save China, and as it was stated he was leaving Canton on the 22nd inst., there was but little time to do it.

I arrived in Canton on Thursday morning, and at once proceeded with what was anticipated would prove to be a difficult task—to arrange for an interview with His Excellency. This, however, was accomplished without much difficulty, for it was desirable, as the Interpreter explained, that China's true position should be known to the world.

On Thursday afternoon H.E. Li Hung-chang granted an audience which lasted exactly two hours. Many things were said in conversation by His Excellency which he thought undesirable to record. His son, Lord Li, was present with H.E.'s staff.

After the Viceroy had asked a number of questions, chiefly regarding the latest news to hand from Europe and China concerning the trouble in the North, H.E. was asked if the report was correct that he had been summoned to Peking by the Empress-

Dowager. He said it was correct. The conversation was continued as follows:—

"Will your Excellency go with the intention of mediating?"

"I shall go to Peking for two purposes. One, to suppress the Boxers, the other, as a mediator—to try and make peace."

"It is generally believed that your Excellency is the only man in China at present who can cope with this difficulty."

His Excellency, laughing, but with emphasis, "I believe that myself!"

"What is your Excellency's opinion as to this Boxer outbreak?"

"I believe the Boxers to be only a rabble of stupid, ignorant people, led away by fanaticism, and anti-Christian feeling into attacking native Christians, and then their foreign teachers—the missionaries."

"You do not then regard them as having political motives, or class them in the same category as the secret societies in China, whose object is rebellion and the overthrowing of the dynasty?"

"No, I do not. First of all, the Boxers are but the common people—the peasantry. Their origin is, I think, due to the fact that continuous trouble with native Christians has engendered ill feeling among the peasantry, and as the Christians in law-cases invariably get the better of them they thought they must practice physical exercises to be equal to the Christians. They commenced to attack the native converts and then the missionaries. The reason is, therefore, partly due to anti-Christianism and fanaticism."

"Do you think the native Christians in instances are to blame for this spirit of opposition?"

"Yes, both Catholics and Protestants, and the missionaries often themselves give trouble. The Roman Catholics are the most troublesome."

"Do you think the Empress-Dowager has been misled at all—take the tone of her last edict, for instance?"

"Yes, I am certain" (and here the Viceroy slapped the chair in emphasis) "that she has been misled and misinformed. I believe the Empress-Dowager has not been informed of the true state of affairs. Her Majesty has summoned me to go to Peking to know exactly what has happened. I firmly believe it was not the intention of the Empress-Dowager that these things should have taken place."

"But it is reported that Yu Lu has been handed over to the Board of Punishments, apparently for his non-success against the allied forces. He acted under Imperial orders?"

"Can you confirm that, because I do not think it can be true? But even if it were true his disgrace for not defeating an enemy would be merely in accordance with the Chinese law, which formally requires the punishment of a defeated general. Of course it is said generally that the forts at Taku suddenly opened fire on the allied fleet without warning, but then I am in receipt of an official telegram about this. It appears that either H.E. Yu Loh, the Viceroy of Chihli, or the commander of the forts, I am not certain which, received an ultimatum that he was to disperse the Chinese soldiers, send away the torpedo boats and render useless the submarine mines at Taku, so that the foreign gunboats could get near the shore and go up river. It was not strange that our people should take this to mean war—to be asked to clear off as they were. Perhaps these ignorant people did not quite understand things; therefore they began to open fire, but whether they really commenced firing first I do not know."

"Then this act of war, your Excellency, does it mean that the Empire is at war with the allied Powers, or only the forces in Chihli—in the vicinity of Peking? Have you made any preparations?"

"I do not think that this is a declaration of war, so I have made no preparation for war. I am receiving you and the foreign consuls here, so we are quite friendly. Then, if this trouble up north meant a declaration of war, I should have been notified by telegram by the Central Government."

"But in any case you could not get a telegram through from Peking—the wires are cut?"

"Well, I got a telegram about Yu Lu and the forts—the wires were then cut!"

"At this stage of affairs, what is the exact attitude of the Viceroy? Are they expected to follow the example set in Chihli and commence aggressive operations?"

"Speaking for myself, my first duty is to protect life and property and to maintain order within my jurisdiction. I shall do nothing aggressive unless ordered, but keep quiet and try to protect foreigners and foreign property."

His Excellency then asked what was the general opinion with regard to China in the present crisis.

The interviewer replied that according to ministerial statements made in Europe the first object of the Powers was to restore order in China. Certainly Great Britain and America desired nothing more than adequate protection for their subjects and freedom to trade. They sought no territory.

His Excellency said he believed that of those two powers. Neither did he think that Russia wanted territory, though as an Englishman, it might be natural for me to imply it.

"What is the remedy for the present state of affairs, your Excellency?"

"I cannot say exactly what will be done until I see the Empress-Dowager. My opinion is, that first we must try to suppress these Boxers. That will be done by beheading their leaders and dispersing their followers, who are ignorant people and know nothing. Secondly, I believe I can make peace with the foreign Powers in a friendly way."

"Do you think that by your leaving Canton a rebellion, far more serious than the trouble in the north, is likely to break out here?"

"I cannot guarantee to say that there will not be a rebellion. I, of course, cannot be sure of what may happen. I do not believe there will be perfect peace, though there may not be a great deal of trouble, and no serious rebellion. Before I take my departure I will give orders to all my officers to do their best to preserve order. I have tried my best to crush the secret societies in these two provinces, but I regret to say that some of the leaders have run away. Most of them hide themselves in Hongkong and Singapore, where they keep quiet. After my departure perhaps many of these men will return and cause trouble."

His Excellency then discussed several things, and the impression of his interviewer was that Li was confident he could restore order in the north and successfully settle the matter with the Foreign Powers. He said he had been Viceroy of Chihli for thirty years without a rebellion and he was sanguine he could deal with the matter.

It is believed he is also fairly confident of order being maintained in the two Kwangs, for he goes away in greater power than ever, he leaves his own generals and other officers behind him, and as he is greatly feared by the people his shadow will remain. That may not be so mighty as his presence, but it

will have the memory of many executions since his present viceroyalty, some say 2,000, to support it.

One could not fail to be impressed with the appearance, the confidence and dignity of this veteran and powerful official, who at the age of 76 has been again found indispensable by a capricious mistress in proping up a tottering Empire.

H. E. said he would leave Hongkong on the 27th inst. by the *Empress of India*, going to Shanghai and thence probably to Peitaiho. He was anxiously awaiting official news.

ALFRED CUNNINGHAM.

THE CRISIS IN CHINA.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

SHANGHAI, 22nd June, 11 a.m.

Chefoo reports that yesterday the *Nashville* brought 33 American refugees from Peitaiho.

Tientsin has been bombarded for two days with forty-pounders. The casualties amount to 100. The United States Consulate has been destroyed.

No less than 20,000 troops are needed. No news whatever has come from Peking.

SHANGHAI, 22nd June, 4.40 p.m.

It is officially reported from Chefoo today that Tientsin has undergone an incessant bombardment by the Chinese regular troops. The Concession has been nearly all burnt down.

The Russian troops at the railway station are hard pressed. Reinforcements are most urgently needed.

The railway is open between Tongku and Chanlianchang. The Chinese fleet are all taking refuge at Shanghai (Woosung). The *Daphne* has arrived at Shanghai.

SHANGHAI, 23rd June, 11.4 a.m.

The War Office notifies the appointment of Colonel A. R. F. Dorward, R. E., D. S. O., to be Brigadier General in command of the military forces at Taku. Weihaiwei will probably be the base of action. Commander Gaunt, R. N., resumes his command of the Naval Establishment, and Major C. E.

A defence scheme has been arranged for Weihaiwei. The country around is quiet.

SHANGHAI, 23rd June, 4.20 p.m.

A Russian force, with some British, Americans, and Germans, has left Taku to relieve Tientsin.

SHANGHAI, 25th June, 11.22 a.m.

The *Humber* arrived at Chefoo on Saturday night from Peitaiho, bringing thirty refugees, including Major Parsons and his wife, and Messrs. Kinder (Engineer-in-chief of the Imperial Chinese Railways) and Ricketts. The guard has been withdrawn from Peitaiho.

Two unsuccessful attempts have been made to relieve Tientsin, the first by the Russians, the second by the Germans. A force from H.M.S. *Terrible* has now gone to Tientsin.

No news is to hand yet, and grave fears are entertained about Admiral Seymour and his force.

CANTON, 25th June, 2.25 p.m.

Li Hung-chang will not leave for the North.

SHANGHAI, 25th June, 9.53 p.m.

A Shantung telegram received by the French Consul here states that three thousand Manchus and eight thousand of Governor Yuan's troops are making a forced march through Shangtung to Peking.

Two Jesuit fathers have been murdered at Hsien-hsien in Chihli.

SHANGHAI, 25th June, 10.20 p.m.

Newchwang reports that on Saturday the Chinese Railway between Tientsin and Newchwang was destroyed in several places. The engineers and the missionaries from Kinchow and Liaoyang have arrived at Newchwang.

There is only a Russian gunboat at present in the harbour. It is rumoured that 5,000 Imperial troops are advancing from Moukden. 85 native cavalry have arrived.

SHANGHAI, 26th June, 9 p.m.

A combined force of two thousand men relieved Tientsin on Saturday, 23rd inst., after silencing the guns of the arsenal and breaking through the Chinese lines.

The Russians lost four killed and thirty wounded. The other nations suffered a slight loss.

Admiral Seymour's force is reported to be surrounded by Boxers and Chinese regular troops ten miles from Tientsin and he is hampered by his sick and wounded.

Assistance was sent to him on Sunday, 24th instant.

It is rumoured concerning Peking that the foreigners there were sent out with a Chinese guard, perhaps with Admiral Seymour.

Three thousand Japanese are now landing at Taku.

The Empress-Dowager has ordered the Viceroy at Wuchang to defend Hukwang [the collective title of the two provinces Hupeh and Hunan] against the rebels and to send troops to Peking.

Viceroy Chang Chihtung is sending 3,000 untrained soldiers to Peking, but is keeping the foreign-drilled troops at Wuchang.

We received on the 27th inst. official information from Canton to the effect that H.E. Li Hung-chang will remain in Canton for the present and will not go up to Peking unless he is ordered again to do so by Imperial decree. H.E. was not officially ordered to remain and has wired to Peking through the Governor of Shantung four times, and if his advice is urgently needed in the Capital an order to that effect will come within a week.

SHANGHAI, 28th June, 4.30 p.m.

Admiral Seymour has been relieved and has returned to Tientsin. His force has lost 62 killed and 312 wounded. No definite news is to hand from Peking.

The accounts of the damage done to Tientsin are greatly exaggerated. Probably there have been no casualties. Only the new Concession has been damaged. The bombardment, however, is continuing.

Mr. Kinder has returned from Chefoo today to Taku with his staff and is getting ready to repair the railway.

There are sixteen thousand troops altogether now landed by the Powers at Taku.

SHANGHAI, 28th June, 9 p.m.

It is reported on good Chinese authority that the Imperial Government is alarmed at the foreign preparations.

Edicts have been issued ordering the summary suppression of the Boxers and the protection of the foreign Legations at all costs.

A local German firm received the following telegram from the North on the morning of the 28th inst., which they kindly placed at our disposal:—

SHANGHAI, 28th June 1.3 p.m.

Tientsin news is exaggerated. It is almost certain nobody is wounded. There has only been destruction in the extra (new) concession.

Through the courtesy of Messrs. Arnold, Karberg and Co., we are also enabled to publish the following telegram which they received on the 28th inst. from Shanghai:—

Tientsin damage much exaggerated. The loss of life and property will probably be small.

From a well-informed source it was reported on the 28th that the German Minister at Peking had arrived in Tientsin, but no details are to hand.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

On Monday afternoon, 25th inst., a meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held in the Council Chamber at the Government Offices, there being present:—

HIS EXCELLENCY THE ACTING GOVERNOR, Major-General GASCOIGNE, C.M.G.

The Hon. F. H. MAY, C.M.G. (Acting Colonial Secretary).

Hon. W. MEIGH GOODMAN (Attorney-General).

Hon. A. M. THOMSON (Colonial Treasurer).

Hon. R. D. ORMSBY (Director of Public Works).

Hon. BASIL TAYLOR (Acting Harbour Master).

Hon. A. W. BREWIN.

Hon. C. P. CHATER, C.M.G.

Hon. Dr. Ho Kai.

Hon. J. THURBURN.

Hon. R. M. GRAY.

Hon. WEI A YUK.

Hon. J. J. KESWICK.

Mr. R. F. JOHNSTON (Acting Clerk of Council).

THE NEW MEMBERS.

Messrs. Basil Taylor and John Thurburn were sworn in as members of the Legislative Council.

PAPERS.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY placed on the table the following papers:—Returns of superior and subordinate courts for 1899; further correspondence on the subject of the Jubilee Road round the island; and the Secretary of State's despatch with reference to the colony's contribution to the South African War fund.

FINANCIAL.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table Financial Minutes Nos. 30, 31, 32, 33, and 34, and moved that they be referred to the Finance Committee.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was carried.

The ACTING COLONIAL TREASURER brought up the report of the Finance Committee (No. 10), and moved its adoption.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was carried.

AMENDING THE MAGISTRATES ORDINANCE.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL proposed the second reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to further amend the Magistrates Ordinance, 1890 (No. 10 of 1890). He said:—This Ordinance proposes to enable the magistrate to deal summarily with two classes of cases which, at the present time, must be committed by him for trial and can only be disposed of by the Supreme Court. Allow me to illustrate the first of them. Suppose a coolie returning from Singapore to Canton on board a British ship steals 50 cents from a passenger bound for Japan. If this theft occurred after the ship had entered the land-locked waters of this colony, as, for instance the harbour, the magistrate could dispose of the case and the passenger could proceed on his journey. If, however the theft occurred on the High Sea, just before the ship reached our waters, it would have been committed "within the jurisdiction of the admiralty" and would, therefore, have to be sent for trial, if all offences committed within the jurisdiction of the admiralty are to remain in the excluding Schedule. It might be a great loss and inconvenience to the passenger to have to remain in Hongkong till the next Criminal Sessions of the Supreme Court in order to give evidence. It is quite possible that it would be held that

Section 688 of the Imperial Merchant Shipping Act of 1894 actually confers on the Magistrate the jurisdiction which the Magistrates Ordinance of 1890 does not confer. For that part of the Act applies to Her Majesty's dominions, and "Magistrate" is included in the definition of "Court." But, in any case, it is difficult to see why the jurisdiction should be withheld. The other amendment deals with petty cases of offering bribes, &c. With these introductory remarks I will refer you to the minute appended by me to the Bill, headed "Objects and Reasons." If I now read that minute I shall probably occupy less of your time than if I went more elaborately into the matter in a long speech. The objects and reasons are as follow:—

"There appears to be no valid reason why in cases of comparatively trifling offences committed within the Admiralty Jurisdiction, as for instance on board a British ship on the high seas, the offender should not be dealt with summarily by the Magistrate in the same way as if the offence had been committed after the ship had entered the harbour. There can be no doubt that the necessity at present existing, of sending all such cases to the Sessions of the Supreme Court, either works great hardship on innocent witnesses who are bound over to appear, or causes a failure of justice by the refusal of persons to prosecute. Hongkong is a port frequented by vessels, many of which stay there but a short period before proceeding to other places, and it is often most inconvenient for witnesses to remain after the ship has left. Where the sentence of six months' hard labour will adequately meet the case and the facts are clear and simple, there is no valid reason why the Magistrate should have to commit the accused for trial just because the offence happened outside the harbour.

"By section 80 of The Magistrates Ordinance, 1890, as amended by Ordinance 12 of 1895, the Magistrate cannot inflict imprisonment for more than six months. If, therefore, the gravity or difficulty of the case rendered committal for trial desirable, the Magistrate would commit just as he can now, even where the case is not excluded by the schedule from summary jurisdiction. (See the third clause of section 80 of the Magistrates Ordinance.)

"As regards cases of ignorant Chinese offering small bribes of a dollar or two to Sanitary Overseers, or Overseers in the Public Works Department, to induce them to refrain from performing their duties, the Magistrate could quite well deal with matters of this kind and dispose of them promptly and satisfactorily. During the last two Sessions of the Supreme Court the time of the Chief Justice, the Attorney General, the Crown Solicitor and the jury, was occupied by no less than four such cases, the last being a charge of offering forty cents to an officer to release from custody an offender whom he was taking to the Police Station. As a matter of fact the Magistrate does, continually, deal with much more serious offences than the offering of petty bribes, and therefore he could quite properly be entrusted to dispose of matters of that kind. This Ordinance is intended to make the amendments in the schedule to Ordinance No. 10 of 1890, necessary to confer the requisite jurisdiction upon the Magistrate."

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded and the motion was carried.

The Bill passed through the committee stage, and on the Council resuming it was read a third time and passed.

AMENDING THE PIERS ORDINANCE.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the second reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend the Piers Ordinance, 1899. He said:—It will be remembered that before Ordinance 37 of 1899 was passed pier-owners were practically tenants at will, having merely licenses for their piers. In view of the requirements of commerce substantial piers became necessities and it was deemed a hardship that where a considerable sum of money had been laid out on a really substantial pier it was impossible to obtain a lease of the structure for a considerable period. The pier-owners desired to get leases for a number of years. The difficulty was met by Ordinance 37 of 1899 by which the rent was increased and the increased rent was specified in the Schedule, and it was understood that scale

was to hold for 25 years, when it would be open to revision by the Governor in Council for a further period of another 25 years. Nothing was said in the Ordinance about the revision after 25 years. It was assumed by the Acting Attorney-General that it would suffice if a term to that effect was contained in the Leases, but the Secretary of State thought it should also be provided for by the Ordinance itself. Hence the second amendment. As regards 'Crown foreshore' I need only refer to the objects and reasons appended to the Bill which I will now read:—

"'Crown foreshore' was defined by Lord Hale to be 'the ground (belonging to the Crown) between the ordinary high-water and low-water marks.' The new Praya Wall will, in some instances, leave little, if any, ordinary Crown foreshore visible. But, as the bed of the sea extending from such new Praya Wall into the harbour belongs to the Crown, no person can erect or maintain a pier thereon without the permission of the Crown. It has been thought advisable, therefore, to extend, for purposes of the Pier Ordinance, 1899, the meaning of Crown foreshore so as to include Crown land covered with water below ordinary low-water mark.

"As regards the revision of rents, it was arranged, when the Piers Ordinance, 1899, was under consideration, that the Governor in Council should have power to revise and alter the scale of rents at the end of twenty-five years, such revised scale itself to remain in force for a like period of twenty-five years. It had been assumed that the insertion of a clause to that effect in the Leases of the Piers would suffice, but the Secretary of State deems it expedient that a provision authorising such revision should be inserted in the Ordinance itself. This will prevent any misunderstanding at the end of the period of twenty-five years, when the arrangement in question, assented to last year on behalf of the Pier Owners, may possibly have been forgotten or overlooked."

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was carried.

The Committee having passed through the committee stage, on the Council resuming, it was read a third time and passed.

PARTING WORDS.

HIS EXCELLENCY observed—Gentlemen, this is the last time I shall have the honour of presiding at your meeting, as His Excellency Sir Henry Blake will be here in a few days. It now only remains for me to thank you for the cordial support you have one and all given me during the three months I have had the high honour of presiding over your meetings. (Applause.)

The Council adjourned until Monday week.

MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was held immediately after the meeting of the Legislative Council, the Acting Colonial Secretary presiding.

At the previous meeting of the committee the consideration of the vote for \$2,300 in aid of the vote "Contribution towards Defence Work" was postponed at the request of the senior member for the Chinese, who desired more information with regard to it. The Chairman now said he was in a position to inform members that the guns were placed and the work completed at Stonecutters and Belchers Point Lower Battery, but the guns had not yet arrived for Lyeemun Central Battery. The Chairman subsequently remarked that His Excellency had just informed him that the guns were on their way.

The vote was passed.

A vote of \$6,000 in aid of the vote "Water Account (Meters, &c.)" was passed.

The Officer Administering the Government recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$800, being increase to the salary of the Local Auditor for the current year.

The Hon. C. P. CHATER—Is this brought before us on the recommendation of the committee appointed by the Council or is it a petition by Mr. Nicolle?

The CHAIRMAN—Mr. Nicolle made a representation on the subject and after some correspondence with the Colonial Office the increase was authorised.

The vote was agreed to.

The Officer Administering the Government recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$1,800 to cover the cost of increases of salaries of Messrs. Chapman, (Assessor of Rates), Dixon (Government Marine Surveyor), and Macdonald (Assistant Government Marine Surveyor) during the current year.

The vote was passed.

The Officer Administering the Government recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$7,000 in aid of the vote "Maintenance of Waterworks, City and Hill District."

The vote was passed.

The Officer Administering the Government recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$650 for the Salary of an additional Clerk at the Shanghai Branch Post Office.

The vote was passed.

This was all the business.

HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

At the Monthly Meeting of the General Committee of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, held at 11 a.m. on the 21st June, there were present Hon. R. M. Gray (Chairman), Messrs. H. M. Bevis, A. Haupt, A. M. Marshall, R. L. Richardson, C. S. Sharp, N. A. Siebs, Hon. J. Thurburn, *ex officio*, and R. C. Wilcox (Secretary).

MINUTES.

The Minutes of the previous Monthly Meeting, held 7th May, and of the Special Meeting held on the 16th idem were read and confirmed.

THE COMMITTEE.

A letter had been received on the 15th June from the Hon. Herbert Smith resigning his seat on the Committee and also his appointment as member of the Legislative Council.

THE CHAMBER'S REPRESENTATIVE ON THE COUNCIL.

In consequence of the receipt of a letter from the Acting Governor informing the Chamber that there was again a temporary vacancy on the Council, and inviting the Chamber to select a candidate to fill the same, a special general meeting of the members was summoned for the 18th June, at which Mr. John Thurburn was nominated, defeating Mr. Francis, Q.C., by 52 votes to 28.

Read letter from Acting Colonial Secretary, dated 19th June, acknowledging receipt of Chamber's letter of the 18th idem informing the Governor of selection made, and stating that His Excellency had been pleased to appoint Mr. Thurburn provisionally, and subject to Her Majesty's pleasure, to be an unofficial member of the Legislative Council, during the absence on leave of the Hon. T. H. Whitehead.

The Chairman said they were pleased to welcome Mr. Thurburn to that table as their representative on the Legislative Council. (Applause.)

FOURTH CONGRESS OF CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE OF THE EMPIRE.

The Secretary reported that a letter, dated 8th May, had been received from the London Chamber of Commerce, forwarding a copy of the official programme.

Read letter from Liverpool Chamber of Commerce, dated 3rd May, transmitting copy of resolutions to be moved by its representative at the forthcoming congress.

JAPAN SO-CALLED SAFETY MATCHES.

The Secretary stated that letters in reply to the Chamber's letters of the 21st April, drawing the attention of various Chambers of Commerce in Japan to the importance of manufacturers in that country taking steps to prevent their matches being classed as dangerous goods, had been received—On the 14th May from the Yokohama Foreign Chamber and the Hiogo and Osaka Chamber of Commerce, and on the 23rd idem from the Kobe Chamber (Native), stating that steps would be taken to make the manufacturers acquainted with the circumstances.

PROPOSED MONOPOLY FOR THE COLLECTION OF ASHES.

A letter having been received from the Government, under date 5th May, stating that a tender had been submitted for the sole privilege of collecting ashes from steam vessels within the harbour limits and requesting the Chamber's opinion upon the desirability or otherwise of creating such a monopoly.

A special meeting of committee was held on the 16th May for consideration of the question, at which it was unanimously decided to reply that in their opinion it was undesirable to create such a monopoly, and on the 19th idem a letter was addressed to the Government to that effect, setting out the reasons for such decision, and suggesting that, instead, the boats now engaged in collecting ashes should be licensed.

The Secretary said that no rejoinder had been received to this communication, but he had reason to believe that the Government were considering the Chamber's counter-proposal.

AMOY AND THE FORMOSA TEA TRADE.

Read letter from British Legation, Tokyo, dated 8th May, acknowledging receipt of Chamber's letter of 28th April addressed to Sir E. Satow, and informing Chamber, in reply, that the question of the discriminating duties levied on Formosan teas is still under discussion between H. M.'s Government and that of Japan.

Also read letter from Amoy Chamber of Commerce, acknowledging receipt of Chamber's letter of 7th May and enclosing copies of despatch received from Sir Ernest Satow and of reply to same.

The Chairman said they could now only wait the result of the negotiations between Sir Ernest Satow and the Japanese Government.

THE NAVIGATION OF WEST RIVER AT LAKLAO.

A letter having been received on the 6th June from the Government transmitting translation of a portion of a report contained in a despatch from the Viceroy Li Hung-chang, dated 14th April, together with a copy of a letter relating thereto from Vice-Admiral Seymour, and asking the Chamber to use its influence with masters of British steamers and launches to induce them to slow down when approaching or passing Laklao, letters were addressed to this effect to the Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Co., the China Navigation Co., the Indo-China S.N. Co., and Messrs. Banker & Co. Replies had been received from the Secretary Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Co. and from Messrs. Banker & Co. on the 8th June, and from Messrs. Butterfield and Swire on the 9th idem stating that the request would be made known to the masters of steamers engaged in river navigation. A further letter from Mr. Arnold was received on the 13th June, in which he stated that Captain Lossins, of the steamer *Loongkiang*, the only one of the company's steamers which passes Laklao, denied ever having steamed through the narrow waters at full speed, and averred that this was only done by Chinese steam-launches, who did so frequently, and had collisions with native craft.

PROJECTED CHANGES IN THE FRENCH CUSTOMS TARIFF.

A despatch from the Government, dated 22nd May, transmitting copy of a circular despatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies covering correspondence regarding changes in the French Customs Tariff, and inquiring if the Chamber desired to make any remarks on the subject, was then considered. The committee did not think many articles of importance were affected, and, as they did not imagine anything they could say would have any appreciable effect, they did not propose to criticise the suggested changes.

THE IMPORT OF INDIAN TEA INTO HONGKONG.

Read letter from the Secretary, Indian Tea Association, Calcutta, asking to be supplied with figures showing the quantity of tea imported here from Calcutta, the proportion transhipped to United States and elsewhere, and that consumed in the Colony.

It was decided to reply to the effect that the Committee regretted their inability to supply the statistics required, owing to this being a free port and there being no register of imports and exports.

THE QUESTION OF CHINESE TARIFF REVISION.

The Chairman then informed the Committee that during his recent visit to Peking he had had the privilege of discussing various matters with the British Minister, chief of which was the question of the Revision of the Tariff. It appears that the proposal put forward on behalf of the Chinese Government was virtually to about quadruple the present tariff for duty

and transit dues, on the understanding that no further charges whatever should be made on imports; but, considering that the Tientsin Treaty of 1858, Art. XXVIII, contains the words, "shall exempt the goods from all further inland charges whatsoever," and that this clause has been simply ignored hitherto, the question arises as to what possible guarantee the Chinese Government could give that would have any value at all? Sir Claude Macdonald had assured him (the Chairman) that not only would the Chambers of Commerce of Hongkong and Shanghai be consulted before any action was taken, but also those of London, Manchester, and Liverpool. In the meanwhile the turn affairs had since taken at Peking would certainly shelve the matter for the time being.

The Committee thoroughly concurred in this opinion.

This was all the business.

The following is the correspondence laid before the meeting:—

AMOY AND THE FORMOSA TEA TRADE.

British Legation,

Tokyo, 8th May, 1900.

SIR,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 28th ult., addressed to Sir Ernest Satow, in further reference to the question of the discriminating export duties charged in Formosa on teas exported via Chinese ports and Hongkong.

In reply I beg leave to inform you that the question is still under discussion between Her Majesty's Government and the Government of Japan, and that before his departure on leave of absence, Sir Ernest Satow addressed a further communication to the Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs, on the subject, to which there has not yet been time to receive a reply.

I may add that Sir Ernest Satow informed the Chairman of the Amoy Chamber of Commerce in this sense on the 18th ultimo.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,
J. B. WHITEHEAD.

The CHAIRMAN,

Hongkong Chamber of Commerce.

Amoy General Chamber of Commerce,
Amoy, 4th June, 1900.

SIR,

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your esteemed letter of 7th ult., enclosing copy of a despatch addressed by your Chamber to H. B. M.'s Minister in Tokyo, in connection with tea duties in Formosa, and the Chamber begs to thank you for the support you have given it in its representations on this subject.

I now beg to hand you herewith a copy of a despatch received by this Chamber from H. E. Sir Ernest Satow, and a copy of the Chamber's reply to the same.

I am, sir,

Yours faithfully,

J. P. WINGATE,

Secretary.

R. CHATTERTON WILCOX, Esq.,

Secretary,

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce.

[Enclosures.]

British Legation,

Tokyo, 18th April, 1900.

SIR,

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 5th inst with reference to the export duties on tea shipped from Formosa, and to state to you, in reply, that the question is still under discussion between Her Majesty's Government and that of Japan, and that I am unable to give you any more definite answer at the present moment. I should be glad to know whether, in the applications to the Tamsui Customs for export permits for Formosa tea, it is described as being shipped to Amoy simply, or to Great Britain or a British colony, as the case may be, via Amoy. I would suggest that, if the latter wording were adopted, the fact of differential treatment would be more apparent. You will of course understand that it is only on behalf of tea, the ultimate destination of which is Great Britain, the Crown Colonies, or such of the Colonies enumerated in Article XIX. of the Treaty of 1894 as have adhered thereto, that

Her Majesty's Government would be in a position to make representations to the Japanese Government, the tea destined to the United States being an American interest.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,

Your obedient humble servant,
ERNEST SATOW.

FRANCIS CASS, Esq.,
Chairman,
Amoy Chamber of Commerce.

Amoy Chamber of Commerce
Amoy, 30th May, 1900.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your despatch of 18th April.

In reply to your inquiry as to whether, in the applications to the Tamsui Custom for export permits for Formosa tea, it is described as being shipped to Amoy simply or to Great Britain or a British Colony, the Chamber states that it has every reason to believe that the majority of the applications on outward cargo, which suffers from the differential tax, are made for Amoy and/or Hongkong, its ultimate destination not being described. As a matter of fact the ultimate destination is oftentimes only decided in Amoy or Hongkong. The cargo finds its way ultimately to Great Britain, Straits Settlements, the Colonies, the United States, the Continent of Europe, China, and Japan, and 80 per cent or more is handled by British merchants, no matter what its final destination may be. The trade route established in the year 1858, when Formosa ports were opened to Foreign trade, was for shipment of Formosa produce to foreign countries via Amoy and/or Hongkong. An immense amount of British capital has been sunk in establishing that route and it is a differential tax against it that this Chamber feels it most justly complains of as being unjust and distinctly contrary to Treaty. The Chamber feels that British merchants should be allowed to choose their own route of shipment without having to pay an extra tax for so doing. To compel them to ship via Japan, in order to avail themselves of a reduced duty if they do so, seems to be a grave injustice, and is so regarded by the other Chambers in China.

I have the honour to be,

Your Excellency's obedient servant,
FRANCIS CASS,
Chairman.

His Excellency Sir ERNEST SATOW, K.C.M.G.,
H.B.M.'s Envoy Extraordinary & Minister
Plenipotentiary, Tokyo.

PROPOSED MONOPOLY FOR THE COLLECTION OF ASHES.

Hongkong,
Colonial Secretary's Office,
5th May, 1900.

SIR,

I am directed to acquaint you for the information of the Chamber of Commerce that a tender has been received by Government for the sole privilege of collecting ashes from Steam Vessels within the Harbour Limits. The ashes so collected would be shifted at specified places and the valueless refuse deposited on authorised spots on the foreshore.

It is anticipated that if the collection of such ashes were entrusted to a contractor the dumping into the Harbour of the considerable quantities of valueless ashes, which there is good reason to believe at present takes place, would be obviated.

From a Police point of view it is expected that the change would also be an improvement, as evidence is not wanting that under existing conditions the collectors of ashes who prowl round the shipping spend much of their time in thieving.

I enclose copy of the Regulations under which such a Monopoly would, if instituted, be enforced and regulated, and I am to add that the contractor would be required to give substantial security for the performance of his contract and for the honesty of his employees.

I am to request that the Chamber of Commerce will favour the Government with their opinion upon the desirability or otherwise of

creating such a Monopoly.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,
F. H. MAY.
Acting Colonial Secretary.

The SECRETARY,
Chamber of Commerce.

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce,
Hongkong, 19th May, 1900.

SIR,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 5th inst. (No. 800) informing this Chamber that a tender had been received by the Government for the sole privilege of collecting ashes from steam vessels within the harbour limits, and requesting their opinion upon the desirability or otherwise of creating such a monopoly.

2.—This question has had the prompt consideration of the Committee, who, as the result of careful inquiry and deliberation, feel bound to record an opinion adverse to the proposal.

3.—At first blush the project appears free from serious objection and calculated to obviate in some degree an admitted evil, namely, the dumping of ashes into the harbour, thereby causing the foreshore to silt up. The objections to the creation of a new monopoly to be worked by Chinese are, however, not far to seek, and greatly outweigh any benefits which might accrue therefrom. The Committee are opposed on general grounds to the principle of farms, but these are accentuated by the manner in which such privileges are worked by the Chinese. It is only necessary to refer to the working of the Conservancy contract to illustrate the evils arising from these monopolies. This contract is sub-let to such a degree that complaints are constant of the abuses arising from the default of the contractors. There is no guarantee that these evils would not be repeated in the case of an Ashes contract.

4.—There is a danger that, either from want of visits or inability to see the signals, especially from steam launches, considerable delay in the movements of shipping might attend the establishment of an Ash Monopoly, or that steamers would be compelled to carry their ashes out to sea through inability to wait for the arrival of the ash boats.

5.—While it is probable that petty theft prevails under existing conditions, it is more than doubtful whether this might not be succeeded, on the event of a Monopoly being granted, by an organised system of bribery, and a greater evil be thus inaugurated.

5.—The present system is of course far from perfect, but it has not given rise to any very serious complaint, and if the Police desire to obtain better control over the ash collecting boats, my Committee respectfully suggest this might be done as readily by licensing the boats as by creating a privileged monopoly.

7.—The greatly enhanced value of the ashes is causing a wholesome competition for the right to collect them which ought to serve as a guarantee both against dumping and against misconduct by petty theft if the boats are licensed.

8.—Apart from other objections to the proposal, the Committee earnestly deprecate the establishment of Chinese monopolies, on the ground that they invariably lead to a serious increase in state-created crime, greatly augmenting the work of the Police, and because, though perhaps indirectly, they constitute a burden on legitimate trade.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,
R. CHATTERTON WILCOX,
Secretary.

Hon. ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY.

P.S.—The copy of the draft Regulations and conditions of the proposed Monopoly is returned herewith, as requested.

THE NAVIGATION OF WEST RIVER AT LAK-LAO.
Hongkong,

Colonial Secretary's Office,
5th June, 1900.

SIR,

I am directed to transmit to you for the information of the Chamber of Commerce the enclosed translation of portion of a report con-

tained in a despatch from His Excellency the Viceroy of Kwang Tung, dated 14th April, together with a copy of a letter relating thereto from His Excellency the Vice-Admiral.

I am to request you to be good enough to use your influence with the masters of British steamers and launches to induce them to slow down when approaching and passing Lak-lao.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,
F. H. MAY.
Acting Colonial Secretary.

The SECRETARY,
The Chamber of Commerce.

14th April, 1900.

[Extract.]

"With respect to the stoning of the steamer *Lung-Kong* by people at Lak-lao, I find that the river at Lak-lao is in my district and is tortuous and narrow and that the current runs swiftly. When steamers arrived at this place they were formerly obliged to go slowly; if they did not, collisions with small boats were inevitable and people and the shopmen living on the two banks of the river, when they see steamers coming too fast, throw stones to make them go slowly. They do this, it is quite evident, to prevent collisions with small boats. *Lung-Kong* is a place within my jurisdiction, and the steamer in question, although it flies a foreign flag, is run by people of this District. *Lung-Kong* is very close to Lak-lao, and the owners of the steamer must necessarily know the circumstances of the place. As the steamer did not slow down it seems difficult specially to blame the village people for throwing stones. I have already ordered the elders and gentry of the place to put a stop to the stone-throwing, but several tens of thousands of merchants and people live there and I am afraid it will prove difficult to point out who throw the stones and put a stop to it.

"I request that a despatch may be written to the Consul to issue instructions to the captains of steamers hereafter when they arrive at Lak-lao that they must slow down and proceed at a moderate pace so that collisions with small boats may be avoided."

Centurion at Weihaiwei,
12th May, 1900.

SIR,

With reference to a despatch from His Excellency the Viceroy of Kwang Tung, dated 14th April, a copy of which has been forwarded to me by the Commodore, on the subject of recent attacks on steam-launches on the West River, I have the honour to inform your Excellency that I quite concur in the suggestion therein that steamers should be obliged to go slowly when they arrive at Lak-lao, so that collisions with small boats may be avoided. The river or creek there is tortuous and very narrow and it is certainly dangerous to boats and native traffic for steamers to pass through at high speed.

2.—I would suggest to Your Excellency that notice would be given to all British steamers or steamboats plying in those waters that they are always to slow down when approaching and passing Lak-lao, and that His Excellency Li should be informed that such notice has been given.

I have, &c.,

E. H. SEYMOUR,
Vice-Admiral.

His Excellency
Major-General W. J. GASCOIGNE, C.M.G.,
Administering the Government,
Hongkong.

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce,
Hongkong, 8th June, 1900.

SIR,

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 5th inst. (No. 993), enclosing translation of a portion of a report contained in a despatch from H.E. the Viceroy of the Two Kwang, dated 14th April, together with copy of a letter relating thereto from H. E. Vice-Admiral Seymour, and requesting the Chamber to use its influence with the masters of British steamers to induce them to slow down when approaching and passing Lak-lao on the West River.

The matter has been considered by the Committee, who have authorised communication with the Companies engaged in the navigation of the river, who have been supplied with copies of the correspondence and requested to bring it to the attention of the commanders of their steamers, who will no doubt, in future, observe the precaution.

I have the honour to be, sir,

Your most obedient servant,

R. CHATTERTON WILCOX,
Secretary.

Hon. ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce
Hongkong, 7th June, 1900.

DEAR SIRS,

I beg leave to enclose herewith copy of a letter received from the Colonial Government, together with enclosures, on the subject of the navigation of a certain creek of the West River at a place called Lak-lao, recently the scene of a hostile demonstration against a foreign steamer, caused, it is alleged, by steamers passing too rapidly in a narrow and tortuous channel and thereby colliding with native craft. H.E. the Viceroy now requests, and Vice-Admiral Sir E. Seymour concurs in the request, that foreign steamers passing Lak-lao will in future slow down at that point in order to avoid the chance of a collision with the native vessels. Will you, therefore, kindly make known this request to the commanders of your steamers navigating the West River?

I am, dear sirs,

Yours faithfully,

R. CHATTERTON WILCOX,
Secretary.

Messrs. JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
General Managers,

Indo-China S. N. Co., Ltd.

[Similar letters were addressed to the China Navigation Co., the H. C. and M. Steamboat Co., and Messrs. Banker and Co.]

THE CRISIS IN CHINA.

LOCAL MOVEMENTS.

Hongkong is rapidly becoming a harbour of refuge for the neighbouring ports. On the 28th inst. there was a large number of arrivals from Shameen, most of the European residents having decided that their wives and families will be safer in Hongkong. Shanghai also is sending us a number of visitors, and the island bids fair to be very crowded during the continuance of the crisis. Canton according to latest advices is perfectly quiet, but no one will be surprised if H.M.S. *Otter* should proceed thither to join the *Redpole* and the American *Don Juan de Austria*. H.M.S. *Plover* was to sail yesterday from Singapore for this port. The *Bonaventure* still remains, and it does not seem that she will now leave the harbour. More probably she will act as a guard-ship in case of emergency. The U.S. flagship *Brooklyn*, with Rear-Admiral Remey on board, arrived here at about 2 p.m. on the 28th from Manila. Should she go north, it may be in the company of the *Zafiro*.

HONGKONG VOLUNTEERS PREPARE.

With a view to being prepared for emergencies forms were sent round last week to the members of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps asking them to fill in their address by day; the number of nearest telephone by day; address by night; the number of nearest telephone by night; and the number of nearest Police Station by night. It is unfortunate that at the present juncture the Machine Gun Companies have only four maxims at their disposal instead of 12, six having been sent home to be brought up to date and two having been taken north by the Fusiliers' contingent.

WEST RIVER MISSIONARIES ARRIVE IN HONGKONG.

The recent events up north have naturally had the effect of causing great excitement in those parts of Southern China which are not too remote to learn of what is going on in the outside world. Though the latest accounts say that everything is quiet in Canton, there are indications that there is an undercurrent throughout the city which may at any moment break out and lead to loss of life and destruction of property. Consequently the foreigners in

the outlying districts are flying to places of safety before it is too late. Captain A. W. Dixon, of the China Navigation Company's boat *Samshui*, has arrived in Hongkong with ten missionaries, two children, and a number of native Christians from Wuchow and other West River ports. When Captain Dixon left Wuchow things were pretty much as usual, though when the natives saw the missionaries clearing out they commenced to jeer, saying that the foreigners were getting scared, and that they had better kill them right away. They were, however, not molested in any way, arriving in Hongkong without a mishap. Special precautions were taken by Captain Dixon to guard against surprise. Two Afghans armed to the teeth kept an eye on the Chinese who were on watch, and the Europeans on board had their arms and ammunition in readiness. The *Samshui* returns to Wuchow shortly, when she may not have so quiet a trip.

There is every reason to believe that the river gunboat *Sandpiper* is at Nanning, about 320 miles beyond Wuchow, she having been commissioned to take Mr. Little, the British Consul at Samshui, thither on a formal visit. The *Sandpiper* created a great sensation at the up-river ports, the Chinese being aghast at the "huge" size of the vessel and the "enormous" number of Europeans—about 20—which she carries! The *Robin*—another river gunboat—has left Samshui with the intention of going to meet the *Sandpiper*.

LIMITING THE RANGE OF THE WAR.

The U.S. Consul at Shanghai on the 21st inst. received the following telegram from Chefoo:—"The following has been agreed upon by the Senior Naval Officers at Taku:—The Admirals and Senior Naval Officers of the Allied Powers in China desire to let it be known to the Viceroy and authorities of the Coast and River Provinces and cities in China that they intend to use armed force only against Boxers and those people who oppose their march to Peking to the rescue of their fellow-countrymen."

THE BOMBARDMENT OF THE TAKU FORTS.

AN EYE-WITNESS'S STORY.

The Chinese steamer *Kwang Ping* (Captain A. B. Clements) arrived in the harbour yesterday from Taku, and as she was present when the forts there were bombarded on the 17th inst. one of our representatives went on board, and got the following interesting story from one of the Europeans connected with the vessel:—

"Our boat was lying at the Coal Wharf at Taku on Sunday, the 17th inst., when we were awakened at one o'clock in the morning by the firing of guns from the forts on to the allied fleets, which were anchored higher up the river round a bend, a small peninsula dividing them from the forts. The allied fleet comprised three Russian, one French, one German, and one British gunboat. The German and the British boats were furthest up the river, and immediately the forts opened fire they steamed down from the Railway Wharf, and at once got to work. The French were the last to get into action. The British boat—the *Algerine*—was the first to reply.

"The first three shells fired from the forts went wide, two of them going over us and the third bursting on the anchor chain of the German steamer *Knivsburg*, which was anchored about 200 feet from us. A number of Europeans, including some Customs House people and some railway people, who had come down from Tientsin, were on board the *Knivsburg*, but owing to the unpleasant proximity of the third shell they all went ashore and took refuge behind some huge coal heaps, within shouting distance of us. We visited one another occasionally to see how things were getting on. These coal-heaps proved an excellent shelter both for us and the people who took refuge behind them.

"At about half-past two a company of Japanese troops came to our assistance, and remained by us until the firing ceased.

"At daylight we could see that the forts were getting the worst of it. The ships were well in hand, and everyone of the shots from the allied fleet seemed to take effect.

"At quarter-past five the British flag was hoisted on the extreme northern end of the North Fort, and immediately afterwards the Japanese hoisted their flag at the southern end.

Then the ships moved down the river in perfect order, firing at the South Fort, which they silenced by about 7.30 a.m., the Chinese flying in all directions.

"The Americans did not fire. The *Monocacy* was lying at the Railway Wharf and got a shell right through one of her life-boats. She had a number of women and children on board, and so that she might be more out of the way she steamed further up the river.

"Considerable damage was done on board the German boat *Illis* by one of the boilers exploding. The Captain was badly wounded and has since died. Several men were killed. On one of the Russian ships 20 men were badly burned through an explosion in the powder room.

"We arrived at Taku on the 13th and left in the afternoon of the 17th, the *Knivsburg* also resuming her voyage with her passengers."

ANOTHER ACCOUNT.

A captain of the German boat, the *Knivsburg*, who witnessed the attack on the Taku forts, described the affair to the master of the *Else*, which arrived yesterday from Chefoo. The bombardment commenced immediately after midnight and lasted for six hours. The *Illis* had her bridge shot away by the fire from the forts, the *Algerine* was damaged and a Russian gunboat reported sunk (it seems, however, that she only went aground)—these vessels lying quite close to the forts. The commander of the *Illis* behaved very bravely and although wounded in the neck and shoulder, persisted in remaining in a steam-launch beside his vessel during the bombardment. The Japanese captured one fort and turned its guns on another. The British took another fort, and the Germans also one. The way the Japanese took their fort was much admired. There were a number of merchant ships present, which took refuge behind the Kaiping coal depot.

A LADY'S STORY OF THE BOMBARDMENT.

A very full and graphic description of the state of affairs in Tientsin was given to the *N.-C. Daily News* on the 20th inst. by Mrs. James Jones, who returned in the afternoon from a short visit to that place. Mrs. Jones was able, too, to tell more of the scenes connected with the taking of the Taku Forts than has hitherto been known, and the following has very great interest:—

Having just returned from a flying visit up north I send you a short account of the trip and experiences connected with it, as it may possibly interest you and some of your readers. I left Shanghai in the s.s. *Hsinfung* on Tuesday, 12th instant, for Tientsin, where, according to wires received things were very unpleasant owing to the Boxers. After passing through a fleet of about 31 war-ships outside the Taku Bar, which made a splendid show, we finally reached Tangku on Friday in time to catch the last train leaving at 5 p.m.

On arriving at our destination (7.30 p.m., one hour late) we were very much surprised to find the station simply crowded with sailors and marines, all fully armed and mostly Russians, some being well mounted on horses brought over from Port Arthur. On proceeding on our way the same sight met us, marines and sailors of all nationalities on guard everywhere, and quite prepared for a sudden attack. At the house where I was to stay I found that the place was apparently in their possession, about 50 Austrians being put up in the godowns adjoining the premises, whilst two of the officers occupied rooms in the house. After having dined, a party of us, escorted by a naval officer, took a short walk before retiring to rest, and then we saw what precautions had been taken for our safety. At every few yards we were challenged by a sentry. There was not a single Chinaman to be seen about and the whole place seemed still and deserted and very unlike Tientsin, especially the Taku Road, which is as a rule I believe one constant flow of traffic. Just as we were returning we heard seven shots fired in rapid succession, but feeling quite safe with so many protectors near we retired to rest. Not, as it happened, for long. At about midnight an officer came with the news that the whole of the Chinese city was in flames, that the Boxers were advancing and were then actually fighting at the Tientsin Railway station, which place they had also attempted to

fire. We were told to get up and dress, so as to be in readiness to rush off to the Town Hall on the alarm being sounded.

The fire was a tremendous blaze and a really grand sight. It is reported that the city was fired in fourteen different places, and if the wind had been in the other direction Tientsin would have stood but a poor chance. When ready, we spent most of our time in the garden (the alarm not having sounded) beside the ammunition, which had been carried out there in case of the buildings being fired. Ten men were left to guard us, and the rest went off with their officers to meet the Boxers. It was about three o'clock when we were at last told we might safely retire again, as all was quiet, the Boxers having been driven off. We heard about 60 or 70 had been killed, but the number is uncertain. The firing had been very frequent since about 11 p.m., and that and the barking and howling of dogs round gave one an unsettled feeling, so that we did not retire, but just lay down as we were.

It was fortunate we did so, as at 4 a.m. we were hurriedly called up and informed that the Boxers were close upon us, advancing towards the back of our dwelling, and we were to go off at once to the Town Hall. As you can imagine in a very short space of time we were on our way there. The poor children were taken out of bed and hurriedly put into thick coats and shoes, and off we rushed to the Town Hall, where we found others similarly attired. It was a truly pitiful sight, there were so many little ones, some only a month old, and although they were very quiet and good, there were a few little white scared faces. Very few amahs were there, as most of the servants have run away, in some cases not one being left in the house. We remained at the Hall until about 7.30 a.m. not knowing quite what was happening or had happened during the time we had been there. Of course all sorts of rumours were going round which did not tend to improve matters. At last word came that it was safe to return to our homes. The Boxers had withdrawn but would return that night, and they expected to have a big fight. All the women and children were strongly advised to leave, but then the difficulty arose of how to get away. The lines had been tampered with and the trains were not running. The damage to the lines, however, was evidently not as bad as reported, as it was quickly repaired, and at 2 p.m. as many as could get away left for Tangku, a pilot engine going on ahead. Later on another train arrived, also with a number of ladies and children, and made for the various ships in port.

Even here our troubles were not at an end. We seemed to have fallen "out of the frying pan into the fire," for soon after getting on board we heard there was a probability of the Taku Forts being taken that night. It appears that the naval captains had called on the General of the forts, taking Mr. Johnstone, a good Chinese scholar, as interpreter, and informed him that unless they surrendered by 12 o'clock that night, they intended to bombard the forts at 2 a.m., it having transpired that thousands of soldiers were entering them and also laying mines across the channel during the day. In consequence of this the residents of Taku received orders at 6 p.m. to leave within an hour's time and take refuge on board U.S.S. *Monocacy*, lying at the railway wharf. About 1 a.m. the Chinese opened fire, the first shot passing harmlessly through the *Algerine's* rigging. From this time till about 6.30 a.m. was an unceasing bombardment, the roar of the cannon being almost deafening. The first fort taken was the North, by, we presume, the Japanese, as that was the first flag we saw hoisted, followed shortly after by the British on the Outer North Fort.

After taking these Forts the men-of-war steamed towards the mouth of the river and soon after the German and Russian flags went up on the South Forts. Shortly after daylight we saw four torpedo boats being towed in stern first by the *Whiting* and *Fame*, flying the British flags. During the time of bombardment we and the ships at Tangku were right in the line of fire and had anything but a pleasant time, the shells whistling above and around us in all directions, and the marvel is that the *Monocacy* was the only one struck, she receiving a shot right

through her bows. The *Lienshing*, lying at Jardine's, besides running the risk of shells from the forts, was attacked by a party of Chinese who were looting the cargo, but the return fire from the *Lienshing* eventually drove them away. A shell falling into one of the Tangku hotels near the railway station killed three Chinese, the only ones that were in the house at the time.

About 10 a.m. when all was quiet some of the officers of our ship went off to explore. Mr. Conley going to the North Fort, Mr. Burgess to the South, and Mr. Miller to Taku, to see how the foreign residences had fared. On their return they had most ghastly tales to relate. The forts were a mass of ruins, rivers of blood, with headless and armless bodies everywhere, which the blue-jackets were gathering together and cremating in heaps.

Several of the houses at Taku were complete wrecks and nearly all had suffered in some way. As soon as it was daylight we saw in the distance a black mass of Chinese hurrying from the Forts and the villages round about. It is feared they will make for Tientsin and join the Boxers. As we passed down the river on our return we noticed the Russian flag was flying at the Imperial Dock at Taku, also on a destroyer lying in the Dock. We do not know how many Chinese were killed, but near Tientsin Railway Station we saw several corpses lying round, the result of Friday night, a night none of us are ever likely to forget. Among the navy the casualties were:—

British—*Algerine*—one officer killed, one officer badly wounded, three men killed.

German—*Ilis*—commander badly wounded; some men killed through explosion of a boiler; some men also wounded.

Russian—*Bobr*—no casualties.

Russian—*Koreetz*—two officers badly wounded; eight men killed; twelve men badly wounded.

Russian—*Gilyak*—one officer wounded; eight men killed; ten men badly wounded; seventy men burnt through explosion in powder room.

French—*Lion*—one officer killed; one man wounded.

HOW THE POWERS SENT TROOPS TO PEKING.

An American correspondent, writing from Tientsin on the 13th inst. to the *Union* of Shanghai, says that some interesting facts have leaked out regarding the midnight meeting of Consuls and officers which led to the sending of troops to Peking on Sunday, the 10th inst. It seems that during the conference the Russian and French representatives frequently drew apart for private conference, which was anything but polite or frank, and the Russian Colonel kept drawing attention to the fact (?) that no invasion of Peking ought to be made with less than 10,000 men (Russia being the only country that could land so many at short notice), and it became evident that he was hoping the others would say, "Well, you have the men, get them and go on." Of course others would consent to no such thing, and so Russia and France finally refused to join the others in sending men—albeit they had troops at the station promptly in the morning. At last Captain McCalla said, "Well, gentlemen, you have talked this matter over pretty thoroughly, and have come to no decision, but I'll tell you what I am going to do; my Minister is in danger, and I am going to Peking." There was then nothing left for the others but to follow, which the British were only too glad to do.

SHANGHAI AFFAIRS.

H. M. S. *Daphne* arrived at 8 a.m. on the 22nd and took up a position at the Senior Naval Officer's buoy. Her present instructions are to remain till further orders. She has brought 400 Lee-Metford carbines and 60,000 rounds of ammunition for the local Volunteer force. It is understood these weapons are also to be distributed to the police.

A meeting was held at the U.S. Consulate on the night of the 22nd inst. to consider the question of the formation of an American Volunteer Company. Nearly thirty gentlemen attended, and various points were discussed. Finally it was decided to form such a company for temporary service—that is to say, during such time as the present trouble lasts. There

was a good deal of speaking on the question of uniform, drill, and the like, but these matters were finally put aside as not affecting the case at present. A communication is to be sent to the Acting Commandant of the S. V. C. to the effect that this company has been organised and with a request that he will take the necessary steps in regard to arming and drill instruction. It was mentioned that the Martini-Henry would be the weapon served out. The election of officers has been left for future decision.

NEWS FROM THE YANGTZE.

From Soochow news comes that in expectation of disturbances the military were very active there. Some 15,000 troops in the neighbourhood were busy getting ready arms and provision against emergencies.

A *N.-C. Daily News* correspondent writes from Kuling under date the 19th inst.:—

"I am sorry to say the bulk of the residents here are living in a state of great alarm, and already a great many of them have left for Hankow, Shanghai, and other places. It is not that there is any sign of trouble breaking out to speak of that frightens them, but the fact that if trouble did break out we are quite defenceless, and that it would be exceedingly difficult to escape. It is a sad pity that our authorities cannot see the folly of leaving these great settlements on the Yangtze entirely to native protection at a time like this. The result of the policy will be that the bulk of the residents up river will find their way to Shanghai to add to your difficulties there, while a few boats and guards sent up would make everything safe. We do hope they will not wait till the Settlements are destroyed before taking this step."

HUPEH.

A Hankow correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News*, writing on the 18th inst., describes a riot four days previously at the market town of Tsao-shih, in the province of Hupeh, on June the 14th, when the premises belonging to the London Mission were looted and destroyed. "For many years," says the writer, "Tsao-shih bore a very bad name among missionaries, as every foreigner who ventured to show his face on its streets was chased and pelted out of the place by a mob of rowdies. But of late years a great change had come over the people and the old rowdy element seemed to have all but disappeared. Last year a foreign house was built by the London Mission and native premises were bought and adapted for temporary use as a hospital, school, chapel, etc. The Rev. Henry Robertson and Dr. Edward Wills have lived there ever since in peace and quietness, the people have been friendly, and hospital and school work has been carried on vigorously. Until the morning of the 14th not a sign was given of approaching trouble. On that day an immense crowd gathered to witness the festival of the God of Medicine, drawn thither, it is now known, by a very widely distributed notice that special attractions would be provided, including "foreign fireworks." The attack commenced by continuous requests to be allowed to look over the house, but this was, of course, out of the question. Later on, stones were freely thrown into the compound, but nothing more hostile was attempted until about one o'clock, the garden gate was burst open and a terrible rush was made into the house. Mr. Robertson was away on a journey, and Dr. Wills, seeing that the mob was bent on mischief, made his escape by the front door, finding a refuge in the loft of a house belonging to a friendly neighbour. But so determined was the mob to find his whereabouts that he was obliged to take refuge in a large wicker basket, where he sat for three or four hours while his enemies sought for him high and low, often quite close to his hiding place. At dusk, he and his assistants made their way to the river and took a boat to Hankow, where they arrived in safety yesterday, the 17th. It is remarkable that notwithstanding the immense concourse of people gathered to witness the fun, and the ferocity of the ringleaders, no life was lost and no one was seriously injured. The origin of the riot is a mystery, but the Viceroy is dealing most energetically with the matter, and he is evidently quite determined to use his utmost authority to preserve peace and order in the territory under his jurisdiction."

COREA'S ATTITUDE.

The Japanese native papers state that Corea hesitates between Russia and Japan for support in the present crisis. The following telegrams are to hand:—

Seoul, June 16th.—The Korean Government is greatly perturbed by the turn of affairs in China and seem to be watching the movements of the powers in order to decide which to depend on. It is remarked that the Government is paying keen attention to the movements of Japan and Russia. The exile of Ye Chai-men, the recall of Ye Chun-yong and other punishments against their party are being suspended in the meantime, the authorities watching the further development of affairs before taking the step.—*Asahi*.

Seoul, June 16th, 2.40 p.m.—The purport of the Russian Minister's representation to the Korean Emperor is reported to be that Corea had far better rely on Russia than Japan and that her paying attention to a young councillor (P. Mr. Sands) and to the foreigners who talk of politics with the view of obtaining mining rights is harmful for her future interests.—*Mainichi*.

Seoul, June 17th.—The Korean Minister to Tokyo reported to the Korean Government that 1,000 Japanese soldiers are about to be despatched to Tientsin. 8,000 Russians are also rumoured to have left Vladivostok for North China and the Korean Government is greatly disturbed by the news.—*Mainichi*.

THE PROPOSED NEW RIFLE CORPS.

On Wednesday afternoon, the 27th inst., a meeting was held in the City Hall in connection with the proposed new Rifle Corps. Mr. Gershom Stewart presided, and there was a good attendance.

The CHAIRMAN said they all knew what they had met for. Perhaps there was no need for him to say many words. He should like to say that the letter which appeared in the papers the other day, and of which that meeting was the outcome, was merely to put before the public in a concrete form an idea which had been in many of their minds for some time past. It was a very great mistake on the part of anybody to consider that that movement was in any way hostile to the existing Volunteer Corps. A great many of those who had signified their willingness to join the Rifle Corps were old Volunteers, and it would be their last wish to injure any force existing at the present time. (Hear, hear.) But they all knew that as men got older advancing years brought increased responsibilities. Men became heads of families or their time was very much taken up with their business. They also suffered from that enemy which overcome all of them—advancing years, which made drill irksome, but they felt that although they might be a little ancient yet they were able and willing in a case of necessity to do something towards the defence of the colony, just the same as they would do in a calamity such as fire or shipwreck, or any other misfortune. All they wanted was to be given a rifle and a range. The question of uniform he thought they could settle for themselves, and the question of ammunition he thought they could also settle for themselves. (Hear, hear.) If they set themselves out to form a body of this sort they were much more likely to arrive at a definite end if they asked for the service rifle. It was no use men providing their own rifles—one man coming with a Mauser and another with a Martini. (Hear, hear.) If they had service rifles they would have service ammunition, and one form of ammunition would do for the whole body of men. This movement was not started with any feeling of alarm. They did not admit that a question of emergency existed; but it was very much better to make arrangements when they could do it quietly and deliberately, because the efficiency of the movement might be very much diminished if they waited till a time of excitement and stress was upon them. He might tell them that the movement was looked upon by the military authorities with every favour, and that they would give them all the facilities they possibly could. (Hear, hear.) What any individual might be able to do by himself was practically nothing, but what a body of men combined could do

might possibly be a very great deal, and he thought that if every man in the colony did his level best to discharge properly whatever duty he might be called upon to perform, and if in a time of trouble the whole community rose loyally to support those amongst them whose particular business it was to defend them, their much-loved little colony would be better able to offer to any danger she might be called upon to face an energetic and honourable and let them hope in the end an effective resistance. (Hear, hear.) He invited a motion as to the appointment of a committee of representative men to talk the matter over and arrange further details.

Mr. MORRIS proposed that the committee be composed of the following:—Messrs. Moxon, McKay, Turner, Richardson, Gompertz, Stewart, Hough, Shelton, Leigh, Osborne, McKie, and Winterburn.

Mr. CRADDOCK seconded.

Mr. FRANCIS moved as an amendment that the committee be limited to five, and that it should consist of the first four names and that of Mr. Stewart, as a small committee would be able to work much more effectively. He added that he should like to hear some statement indicating in some way the broad lines upon which it was intended to work the new Rifle Association. (Hear, hear.)

The CHAIRMAN said that the broad line, of the proposed association were out-lined in the letter written to the papers. Of course if there was any material point to be settled he quite understood that five men might possibly be more able to settle it than a dozens but as they were still in a state of embryo, they thought it would be better to have a committee of a dozen men representing different sections of the community than a smaller body. Of course when the committee had considered the details and the corps was properly formed its would be dissolved—its *raison d'être* would cease.

No one seconded Mr. Francis's amendment and the motion was carried, and no one else offering to speak the proceedings terminated, the committee being asked to remain behind for a while.

CHANGES IN THE TSUNGLI YAMEN.

The following telegraphic news was received by members of the Reform Party, Shanghai, on the 15th inst.:—Prince Ching, and Liao Shou-heng, President of the Board of Rites, have been dismissed from the Tsungli Yamen as 'too timid,' and that although Prince Tuan, father of the Heir-Apparent, had been appointed the same day (10th inst.) to succeed Prince Ching as President of the Yamen, he had strongly declined to take the post. The Empress Dowager, however, stood firm, and further appointed Prince Na Yen-tu, Chi Hsiu, and P'u Hsing members of the Tsungli Yamen, in order to assist Prince Tuan in inaugurating the new policy." If, says the *N.-C. Daily News*, what the telegram above-noted says is true, and we have no reason to doubt its accuracy, we can easily imagine what this "new policy" of the Empress Dowager's Government will be, namely that it will be more reactionist and more anti-foreign than any hitherto attempted by any Chinese government, even in its most conservative days. The new President's "assistant," Na Yen-tu, is a Mongol Prince of the Alatsin Tribe, who has always been a violent reactionist and for this has been patronised by Prince Ching and others of the Empress Dowager's advisers, who lately got him promoted to the rank of a Minister of the Presence, in order to get as many of their own people as possible around the present usurper of the Throne. Chi Hsiu, President of the Board of Rites, and P'u Hsing, the other two "assistants in the new policy," are Imperial Clansmen who are great friends of Kang Yi and who have lately come into greater prominence owing to their also being reactionists and violent anti-foreigners. P'u Hsing is a Vice President of one of the Six Boards, who it will be remembered was sent to Shantung last year to investigate charges made against Chang Ju-mei, then Governor of Shantung, for bribing Li Hung-chang when the latter went to that province to investigate the Yellow River. Chang Ju-mei was dismissed but Li Hung-chang escaped through the friendship of the Empress Dowager.

THE NAVIGATION OF THE YANGTZE.

The Chungking correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News* writes:—H.M. gunboats *Woodcock* and *Woodlark* are now things of the past. It is very doubtful if we shall ever see them in Chungking again. With a speed of only 12½ knots, both commanders are of the opinion that they are not powerful enough for patrolling the Upper River in high water. Certainly, neither of them has negotiated the Upper River in high water, so it is hardly right to condemn them on that score. The *Woodlark* came up exceedingly well without tracking at a single rapid, so that it is difficult to imagine she could not negotiate the river when it is 20 or 30 feet higher, at which period there are no rapids so bad as at low water.

We do not feel we are any the better off now that it is demonstrated that gunboats can get here. The gunboats have returned and in the event of the foreign community needing their protection—we are glad to say there are no signs of such need at present—they could not get here under 10 days. If the Admiralty had no intention of stationing a boat here it seems a farce sending them up at all.

That a gunboat ought to be stationed here there can be no doubt whatever. Foreigners have been too long at the tender mercies of the Chinese in these parts. The reward for assault and riot in Szechuan is as good, perhaps, as anywhere in China; but with a gunboat able to go right up to the capital, Chengtu, I don't think we should hear further of any serious trouble.

The steamer *Pioneer* will be here in a few weeks. No trouble is anticipated for her at present, but when running regularly there is no knowing what trouble junk owners may cause. It is well known that measures have been taken to intimidate the present pilots of the gunboats and it is a remarkable fact that two pilots, both good men, who had charge of the *Leechuen* and *H.M.S. Woodcock* have both mysteriously disappeared.

Certainly, if the *Pioneer* is a success and other steamers quickly follow, the upward junk trade is doomed. In view of all this, I say it is right we should expect to have a gunboat stationed here all the year round. Probably H.B.M.'s Government will be content to "deal with questions as they arise."

Both the gunboats made exceedingly good trips to Luchow and Suifu from here. Suifu is 250 miles higher up the river. The *Woodcock* did the trip in 4 days, spending one day at Luchow, and did the return journey in 17 steaming hours. The *Woodlark* only went as far as Luchow, a distance of 152 miles, but she came back in remarkably quick time. Leaving Luchow at 5 a.m. she arrived in Chungking at 5 p.m., stopping one hour en route. This performance quite took the natives aback. They are used to spending about three days on that trip at this time of year.

CANTON.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Canton, 23rd June.

THE REGISTRATION OF ARMS.

A scheme which aimed at preventing the sale of fire-arms to pirates was submitted to H. E. the Viceroy Li Hung-chang by Lao Hok-shun, director of the Commercial Bureau. The latter stated that he had been to Hongkong and Macao, and found that there were several shops kept by Chinese merchants for sale of arms and ammunition, that he had bought nearly all of them, and had sent them to Canton by four different shipments. The first shipment was on the 18th of the 3rd moon, 5,002 rifles; the second on the 29th of the 3rd moon, 5,000 casks of powder; the third on the 7th of the 4th moon, 800,000 bullets. All these were taken in tow by s.s. *Kiangtung* from Macao. The fourth shipment of 900 rifles, 400,000 bullets and 90 cases of large caps, was taken by the gun-boats *Kwang Kang* and *Kwang Lee*. The total cost was over 200,000 taels, and everything was examined and stored in the ammunition department. The scheme he proposed regarding the

disposal of the arms and ammunitions was as follows:—(1) All the arms are to be marked with European numbers, registered in a book to be kept for that purpose, and not to be sold clandestinely, but only with permission of the Viceroy. In case any military official requires a supply of arms he shall send a petition to the Bureau, who will submit the same to H. E. the Viceroy for approval, and as the arms pass the *lekin* or customs stations they shall be subject to examination. In case the gentry and elders of any village require a supply of arms for the use of their militia corps against the pirates, they shall apply in the same manner, and find security for their shipment. (2) If any person, whether he be of the gentry, a merchant, a scholar, or one of the common people, has any arms in his own house for his protection, a *weiyuen* shall be deputed to examine and mark them, and the Bureau shall pay all expenses, so that the *weiyuen* may not "squeeze." In case the latter should in any manner abuse his office, upon the presentation of a petition he shall either be dismissed or degraded. H. E. the Viceroy in approving of the above scheme remarks as follows:—"This scheme and the rules thereof are quite satisfactory; let them be strictly carried out. In case any person loses his marked arms let him make a report of the fact to the Bureau for investigation, and let the Provincial Governor take note of it also."

SECRET SOCIETIES AND BANDITTI.

Every province of China has its own local banditti. In the north there are "Boxers," in the south there are *Kolao Hui*, *Poko*, "Big knife," "Small knife," "Three Dots," "Triad," and *Chung Hing* societies, as well as many others, of various names but not so well known scattered nearly all over China and abroad. The most powerful on the highwaymen of the Shantung province, who make their attack and robbery on horseback, next come the pirates of Kwangtung, the local Banditti of Kwangsi, and Yunnan, the mountaineer bands of Chim Suk, the salt smugglers of Woyong, and Tszkiang, and the desperadoes of Wim Toi. Inferior classes of robbers and thieves are the "red bearded" banditti of Tientsin, the vagrants of Shanghai, the scoundrels of Suchow and Chung Kiang, the "green skins" of Nanking, the "cucumbers" of Hongchow, and the pick-pockets of Ningpo. They belong to different districts and provinces under the control of their chiefs respectively. Some have joined the societies and become thieves by force of circumstances, some by fraud and persuasion, some have been compelled by force, some have even joined for protection against other bad characters, while many others join because they are naturally born thieves. They live by plunder, smuggling, and fraud, by attacks upon unwary travellers, by burglary, by kidnapping women and girls to exact ransoms, by setting fire to and attacking any village too weak to resist them, or by burning Christian churches and robbing the native Christians; and lastly when they have mustered sufficient numbers and are provided with sufficient arms and ammunition, they will make a rebellion and give some work to the officials to do. H. E. Li Hung-chang has invented a new machine for dealing with this class of ruffian. It is a wooden cage, five feet and a half high, with a hole in the top of it; the criminal is put into it, his hands being tied behind and his head protruding from the top hole, and he is then hung by the neck and by degrees strangled to death. On the 16th ult. six criminals were executed in this manner near the Hongkong and Canton steamer-wharf—one for kidnapping the concubine of a doctor and the other five for robbery.

INFLAMMATORY PLACARDS.

A number of inflammatory placards have been posted up in the Western suburbs of Canton, of which the following is a specimen:—"Kill all the German, the French, the American, and the English. Drive all the foreigners away, and our hearts will rest at peace. Act with all your minds and strength, and the great event will be accomplished. It will take but a few days for us to raise our troops. When the red flag is waving aloft the world will enjoy universal peace."

Here is another:—The four countries, Japan, America, Germany, and English have swallow-

ed up the territory of the Ta-ching and subverted all our plans. Our hearts are not satisfied, but when the red flag is floating and when we have raised our well-disciplined troops and driven away the foreign devils the world shall enjoy universal peace."

In consequence of such threats, during the last few days mandarin guard-boats have been moored alongside Shameen, ostensibly for its protection.

[FROM ANOTHER CORRESPONDENT.]

NATIVE RUMOURS.

Canton, 25th June.

All is quiet here, but the most hair-raising stories are going about, from Chinese sources, making out that all the foreigners in Peking and Tientsin have been wiped out. The country people are inclined to believe the stories, and those who had stored silk in the settlement are taking it back for safety! One man has taken a lot back on which he had prepaid \$100 insurance a little while ago. This is a straw which will show which way the wind is blowing.

THE DEFENCE OF EUROPEANS.

The *Redpole* and *Don Juan de Austria* are here and could land over 100 men without interfering with the working of the ships or their batteries. Our Defence Corps is 46 strong and should be able to meet anything that is likely to come from the city. A French boat is said to be coming up, but we are not very anxious for her, as the French and the missionaries are more likely to raise trouble than anything else. The missionaries do nothing but spread reports and clamour for the protection of their chapels, which are centres of gossip and uneasiness. The country "mishes" have mostly come in, and several have gone down to Macao or Hongkong.

LATER NEWS.

Canton, 26th June.

We were glad to hear to-day that Tientsin is relieved, but the silence from Peking is ominous and alarming. I hope that the awful tragedy which passes for the reason here among the natives is not true. All is quiet here. Defence Corps matters are working more smoothly in spite of obstacles raised in some official quarters. We shall have pretty well all our men now armed with Mausers. The Corps works with the *Redpole* and the Americans, and is not to be kept in the background.

[FROM THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."]

The following notice has been issued by H. E. Li Hung-chang in response to the petitions presented by the gentry and merchants earnestly asking him to remain in the Provinces of Kwangtung:—"I, being an Earl, Grand Secretary and Viceroy, and having been ordered to protect the boundaries, should of course use all my power to fulfill the order. When I first received the Imperial order to return to Peking, I should have wished to go at once, hoping to give such information to the Throne concerning the present crisis as to facilitate suppression of riot and the making of friendly arrangements with the foreign powers. By these means peace can be restored and danger averted. But there are so many obstructions to travel both by land and by sea that I cannot at present have my wish. To-day (the 26th June) I have received an Imperial Decree by telegraph, through the Governor of Shantung, ordering all the viceroys and governors to protect the provinces within their different jurisdictions and to be in readiness to send soldiers to Peking for its protection. All the viceroys and governors should encourage each other and co-operate together, so as to do away with the danger. When I read over this telegram I know that it is most likely that the soldiers of the various powers have assembled in Peking, as well as the Boxers. Though I wish to fly to the help of the throne, I am afraid it will be too late for me to do so. If I am to remain in Canton a day, I will do a day's work with all my ability. I have now only to encourage all the scholars and people to act loyally. The first step is to drill the soldiers and to lay up large stores of provisions in readiness to cope with the bad characters and protect the boundaries. Officers and people should stand by each other, and high and low should co-operate together, so that every regiment may prove ready for use when

called upon. I have to instruct the Tartar General, the Governor, the Commander-in-Chief of the land forces, and the Admiral, as well as all the officers, civil and military, of different districts, to carry out their orders. Obey this."

H. E. Li Hung-chang has also notified the directors of Man-Lau College that owing to the present difficulties he is not proceeding to Peking at present, but that, when there are less obstacles to the journey, he will go up at once.

MACAO.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

THE DEFENCE OF THE COLONY.

Macao, 25th June.

It is stated that our Government Council have telegraphed to the home Government urgently requesting troops and men-of-war for the defence of the colony. Preparations are being made in the barracks to house 300 or more men. Part of a regiment is coming—according to some, it has already left Lisbon, while others say that it is getting ready to depart. It is reported that one man-of-war is now on her way out, the cruiser *Adamastor*, which is of recent construction and has all the modern improvements. Her commander is Senhor Ferreira d'Amaral. A circular has been sent all round the colony, inviting all who wish to offer their services as volunteers to sign. In two or three days' time the circular will be sent up to the Government Council, which will be able to call upon the signatories for service, if required. At present about a 100 signatures have been appended to the document. The decision of the Council is anxiously awaited.

GETTING READY FOR EMERGENCIES.

There is to be artillery practise on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday next, the 2nd, 3rd and 4th prox. Captain Carmona is giving daily instruction to the officers and men in the handling of the guns. The two big Armstrong guns in the San Francisco Battery are also going to be fired, for the first time since 1870, when they were mounted. Two days will be devoted to practice with the fort-guns and the horse-artillery guns from Japan. The marines are doing duty on shore, and began on Saturday last to mount guard over the Government buildings. Two officers arrived last week for the *Zaire*.

MONOPOLIES AND THE PUBLIC WELFARE.

It is sincerely hoped that the troubles in the North will not spread down here, for in that case this colony will indeed suffer heavily. Even now our market prices are as high as they have ever been, ordinary necessities are ruinously dear, and if the disturbances extend to this neighbourhood then we are done for. This is all the more certain from the scandalous government monopolies on every conceivable article. Considering the indirect taxes which we are paying daily for all market goods, the Government's duty is to lighten the very oppressive income tax. The condition of trade is a disgrace to the colony and the administration which depends on monopolies for almost the whole revenue is simply diabolical. The present members of the Leal Senado have set an excellent example by doing away with the rickshaw monopoly, and the public can see with their own eyes whether, as a consequence, these vehicles are not cleaner and far better than before. Visitors to Macao will endorse this statement. The Government has no time to lose in abolishing the monopolies in articles of daily use and trying a different method of drawing an income. Half-a-dozen people should not be allowed to exploit the public for their own advantage, and the Government's error in persevering in this course is a grievous one. With articles of daily use in the hands of merciless monopolists, the first victims are the traders, the next (and the most important) the general public.

Macao, 28th June.

SEARCHING FOR ARMS.

All Chinese passengers arriving in Macao from outside are searched, with all their luggage, to prevent the importation of arms and ammunition. At 6 a.m. a gun is fired, to signify that the port is open and passengers can land. The search-party is then ready to examine arrivals and their luggage. At 7 p.m. another gun is fired and the port is declared

closed, no Chinese being allowed to land or go on board. The search of passengers and luggage from Hongkong began yesterday.

Many people are laying in stocks of rice, firewood, etc., to provide for the future. The arms-dealers are now unable to sell arms right and left as before, but have to ascertain to whom the arms are sold. They have to report weekly to the Government on their stock in hand. Sales to suspicious persons are altogether forbidden. All that can be said of this is—"Better late than never."

KIEH-YANG.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Kieh-yang, 14th June.

A MYSTERIOUS SOCIETY.

In the Swatow region a new politico-religious society has lately sprung up. Its aims are the promotion of Buddhism and the subversion of Roman Catholicism. Doubtless Roman Catholics are singled out because they are more unpopular, not from any partiality for other forms of Christianity. The new sect is said already to number seventy thousand adherents, with thousands joining daily. Presently we may have in these people the counterpart of the "Boxers" of the North.

A MAN-EATER.

Twelve miles or so north of Kieh-yang hien is a small district which has suffered for two years from the depredations of a tiger with a fatal preference for human victims. In that time some sixty persons have been attacked by him. Most escaped with wounds, but some have been killed and eaten. The victims are invariably bitten in the head. Several of those injured by the beast have been treated successfully in the English Presbyterian Hospital at Wuking-fu. Unless some benevolent sportsman comes to the rescue and earns the gratitude of the villagers by shooting this animal he will continue to prey on human victims. If this appeals some humane hunter, who can and will make it his business to hunt down and kill this man-eater, he can obtain all necessary information by writing to Dr. Wm. Riddell, E.P. Mission, Swatow.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

THE DEFENCE OF THE COLONY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Sir,—It has occurred to several members of the community who are not so young as they once were, but who are still able and willing to lend a hand in the defence of the colony, should the occasion for it unhappily arise, that the present is perhaps a fitting time for the formation of a corps who would be ready to place their services under somewhat special terms of enlistment at the disposal of the Military authorities.

The war at the Cape has demonstrated the value of irregular forces who can shoot, and it is believed that there exists in our midst the material for the formation of a body of this sort.

A rough sketch of the scheme is given as under so that men may have some idea of the object in view.

1.—Members must be over 32 years of age and must not belong to any of the other Volunteer forces in the colony.

2.—Drill will be reduced to a minimum and members will not be called upon to attend any ceremonial parade.

3.—The question of uniform to be reduced to the smallest amount necessary to ensure to its members the rights of war.

4.—That the Government be asked to supply a rifle range in as suitable a locality as possible, so as to encourage practice.

5.—That the Government supply arms, service rifles free of cost, and an allowance of ammunition for practice to be issued at cost price to members.

This letter is addressed to you with a view to sounding the public, and any one who feels inclined to join can send in his name to any of the undersigned, and in addition, lists will be placed at the Hongkong Club and at Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co. and Kelly & Walsh.

Mr. A. Turner, of Messrs. Palmer and Turner, will undertake the duties of Hon. Secretary for the time being.

Should enough names be received in the course of a week to make the force worth offering to the Government, a public meeting will be called for the further discussion of the scheme and for the election of a provisional committee to arrange the various details necessary.

When companies are formed they can elect their own officers.

If the number of names received are sufficient it might be possible to form a corps of three sections.

One for the Peak.

One for residents in the town.

One for Kowloon.

The modern magazine rifle cannot be learnt at a moment's notice and it is hoped that men joining this corps will familiarize themselves with it by regular practice.

Yours faithfully,

A. TURNER.

G. STEWART.

H. H. J. GOMPertz.

R. L. RICHARDSON.

G. C. MOXON.

JOHN A. MACKAY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS"

Sir,—I have read with some considerable interest the letter under the above heading which appeared in your issue of Saturday's date. The scheme therein put forward appears to me to press most unfairly upon the members of the existing Volunteer Corps, who, I venture to think, have the first claim upon the liberality of the Government. The present allowance made to the Corps is quite inadequate to secure efficiency in all respects, the equipment being defective in many ways. When at Kowloon city last year, my water-bottle was in such a foul condition that I never touched it all day, and several other members who ventured to sample the contents of their respective bottles were nearly made sick in the attempt. On the occasion of the Terrible reception there were not sufficient bayonets to go all round, so some late comers were inevitably left out of the show. These defects will no doubt be remedied—when the money comes along to do so. Now as to the shooting. The Government, I believe, provide fourteen rounds of ball ammunition per man per year; as a matter of fact last year I fired seven rounds at the expense of the Government, and about three hundred at my own expense. To secure good shooting the individual allowance must be very considerably augmented. With all due respect I cannot help thinking that what these gentlemen really want is an occasional afternoon's amusement at the public expense. I have had to buy my own rifle, and I cannot quite see why Messrs. Turner, Stewart, Gompertz, Richardson, Moxon and Mackay should not be asked to do the same, if they are really so anxious to benefit their country by learning to shoot straight. After the first two years the Corps regulations only require members to put in 15 drills per annum, and if there is any Britisher who cannot spend the time to do that, why doesn't he pay up his five dollars like a man, and join the existing Rifle Association, when he will meet some of the best shots in the colony and learn more from them in a month than by fooling about for a year by himself. I am afraid if the proposed scheme be carried out half the members of the existing Corps will be applying for leave to transfer to the new Arm-chair Company, when they will have all the fun without any of the hard work of dragging the guns about.—Yours faithfully,

H. HURSTHOUSE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 25th June.

Sir,—I am glad to see in your issue of date, that the question of the Defence of the Colony has been approached from another point of view, and hope that you will see your way to insert a few further remarks on the subject.

I am in accordance with Mr. Hursthouse as regards the first part of his letter, and certainly think that it is almost useless to expect that the Government will provide arms for a new Corps, when the present Volunteer Corps is not properly equipped.

As to the latter part of the letter, it seems to me that the age limit (of 32) stated in the original proposal would prevent the transfer of members of the present Volunteer Corps to any great extent. At the same time, there are many in the Colony who cannot join the Volunteers for various reasons.

Why should not the difficulty be met by granting privileges to members of the Rifle Association, who would engage to come forward when necessary, and place their services at the disposal of the Government? All that is wanted is to give such men a greater facility for obtaining ammunition, in return for an engagement to put in a certain number of "useless" as opposed to "ceremonial" drills.

At present the cost of ammunition is \$7, while members of the Volunteer Corps obtain it for \$3.

If the Government would encourage the Rifle Association by allowing members to purchase it at, say \$4, a number of useful men would be available in times of extremity, and the Association would soon grow larger and stronger.

There should be no need to provide rifles, and the state of the Volunteer's equipment should be remedied as soon as possible.

In the present state of affairs, it seems to me that some immediate action should be taken, and I suggest the above for consideration of the Committee who put forward the original proposal to form a Supplementary Corps for Defence.

Lastly, why should not each member of the Volunteers have his own numbered equipment, kept in a certain place at Headquarters, ready for any emergency, instead of having to depend on what he can get in a general scrimmage?

Apologising for this somewhat lengthy trespass on your space,—Yours faithfully,

C. B.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 25th June.

Sir,—It is with great regret that we have noticed an inclination on the part of one or two members of the Volunteer Corps to regard with some jealousy the formation of the special service companies for which we have invited recruits.

2. Let us, therefore, with special reference to the gentleman who has written to the *Daily Press*, at once disclaim any intention of injuring the interests of the existing organization.

3.—It will be readily admitted that there are in the colony members of able bodied men between 32 and 60 years of age—many of them used to firearms and possessing in some cases a valuable acquaintance with the topography of the surrounding country.

4.—Compulsory military service does not yet obtain in this colony and it is doubtful if men of this class, will ever join the Volunteers in large numbers in time of peace.

5.—In time of war no doubt they would volunteer en masse, but the crisis might come suddenly and men would find they had plenty of other work to learn at very short notice without having also to be initiated into the mysteries of the military rifle.

6.—Wishing therefore to do something, however little it may be, towards preparing ourselves in peace to meet the risks of war, we have approached the Military Authorities—informally up to the present—with the following proposals:—

(a) We ask Government to lend us service rifles, of which apparently they have large numbers in store.

(b) To give us the same allowance of ammunition per head as is now issued to the Volunteers. (We shall no doubt, like Mr. Hursthouse, find it necessary to supplement this at our own expense).

7.—We ask for no capitation grant and are prepared to buy for ourselves such simple equipment, including water bottles, as may be found necessary.

8. In return for the loan of rifles we undertake

(a.) To pass such standard of efficiency in shooting as may be laid down;

(b.) To turn out when called upon equipped and ready to take our part in the defence of the Colony.

9. Where in all this is anything to object to, or how do we injure the existing Volunteers or the Rifle Association?

A. TURNER.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN WAR FUND.

The following is the Secretary of State's despatch with reference to the colony's contribution to the South African War Fund, which was laid before the Legislative Council yesterday:—

Downing Street,
4th May, 1900.

Sir,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Sir H. Blake's despatch No. 124 of the 29th March last, reporting that the Legislative Council of Hongkong has unanimously agreed to a vote of \$50,000 from the public funds of the Colony in aid of the Lord Mayor's Fund in connection with the war in South Africa, and that the total sum subscribed by the community amounted at the date of that despatch to \$153,166.67.

In reply, I desire to express my warm appreciation of the loyalty and generosity shown by the colony:—

I have the honour to be, sir,
Your most obedient, humble servant,
J. CHAMBERLAIN.
The Officer Administering the Government of Hongkong.

CONCERT IN CANTON.

A concert was given on the evening of the 22nd inst. by some members of the Portuguese community of Shameen, assisted by a few of their Hongkong friends, at the Canton Club Theatre. The proceeds were devoted to the Indian Famine Fund. There was a full house and an appreciative audience. The Shameen Portuguese band made its first appearance before the public under the able direction of Senhor V. F. Senna and played very creditably, considering the short time that it has been practising. All the performances were admirable, and especially successful was the operetta "Cox and Box," performed by the three Messrs. Danenbergs. The whole evening was spent very pleasantly. After the national anthems H. B. M. Consul, Mr. B. C. G. Scott, rose and thanked the members of the Portuguese community in general, and the amateurs in particular, for their efforts in getting up this concert in a cause so deserving of support.

The following ladies and gentlemen took part in the performance: Messrs. V. F. Senna, M. J. Danenberg, E. Danenberg, F. Danenberg, J. M. B. Gutierrez, S. S. V. Ribeiro, A. J. Rodrigues, S. Pinna, A. E. Alves, Mrs. Callado Crespo, Mrs. V. F. Senna, Mrs. M. Danenberg, and the ladies and gentlemen of the chorus.

THE HONGKONG ELECTRIC COMPANY, LIMITED.

The following is the report of the Board of Directors to the eleventh ordinary yearly meeting of shareholders, to be held at the Company's offices, No. 4, Queen's Buildings, at 12.15 p.m., on Saturday, 7th July, 1900.

Gentlemen.—Your directors have the pleasure to submit the accompanying statement of the Company's accounts for the year ending 30th April, 1900.

The balance at credit of profit and loss account is \$51,216.36; after deducting directors' fees, \$3,000, there remain the sum of \$48,216.36 available for appropriation, and your directors recommend that this be disposed of in the following manner:—

To pay a dividend of 7 per cent. per annum:—
Say 70 cents per share on 30,000 fully paid shares \$21,000.00
Say 7 cents per share on 25,896 partly paid shares (6 months) 1,812.72
To write off plant account for depreciation 24,354.23
To carry forward to next account 1,049.41

\$48,216.36
Of the new issue of shares, 25,896 shares have been taken up; and your directors propose to deal with the remaining 4,104 shares as opportunity and requirements call for.

The Manager's report attached hereto gives usual particulars of work carried out, &c., during the year.

DIRECTORS.

The directors deeply regret the death on 2nd April last of Mr. H. L. Dalrymple, who had been Chairman of the Company since its commencement. Mr. A. G. Wood resigned his seat on leaving the colony.

To fill these vacancies Messrs. J. Thurburn and C. S. Sharp were invited to join the Board, and these appointments require confirmation.

In accordance with the Articles of Association Hon. C. P. Chater, C.M.G., and Mr. C. W. Dickson retire, but, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITORS.

The accounts have been audited by Messrs. G. Stewart and J. C. Peter, who offer themselves for re-election.

C. S. SHARP,
Chairman.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT TO 30TH APRIL, 1900.

LIABILITIES.		\$	c.
Capital:—			
30,000 shares each \$10 paid up	\$300,000.00		
25,896 shares each \$2 paid up	51,792.00		
	351,792.00		
Sundry creditors	7,461.97		
Dividends unclaimed	2,513.40		
Balance of profit and loss account	51,216.36		
	\$412,983.73		

ASSETS.		\$	c.
Plant, cost of, as per last account \$217,354.33			
Less amount provided for depreciation	17,354.33		
	\$200,000.00		
Cost of plant, since added	59,354.23		
	259,354.23		
Property, cost of land and buildings	60,838.60		
Installation material, stock of	32,460.48		
Stores and coal, stock of	9,391.31		
Tools, &c., on hand	1,516.00		
Furniture, cost of, as per last account	\$ 100.00		
Cost of furniture, since added	358.00		
	458.00		
Insurance, value of unexpired portions of policies	500.00		
Sundry debtors	31,232.78		
Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, cash with	9,102.80		
Cash with agents	8,029.03		
	\$412,983.73		

WORKING ACCOUNT.		\$	c.
Dr.			
To installation material	56,624.47		
To salaries and wages	27,860.95		
To coals	27,200.45		
To stores	8,666.21		
To repairs	4,239.89		
To office expenses	4,000.00		
To charges	3,265.23		
To rent and taxes	2,580.53		
To insurance	969.10		
To auditors fees	200.00		
To tools	148.80		
To amount carried to profit and loss account	43,596.62		
	\$179,393.25		

Cr.		\$	c.
By gross earnings of the Company	178,753.94		
By interest	568.31		
By scrip and transfer fees	71.00		
	\$179,393.25		

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.		\$	c.
Dr.			
To amount available for appropriation	51,216.36		
	\$51,216.36		
Cr.			
By amount of undivided profits, as per last account	2,027.09		
By sale of forfeited shares	5,592.65		
By balance of working account, brought down	43,596.62		
	\$51,216.36		

GIBB, LIVINGSTON, & Co.,
Agents.

MANAGER'S REPORT.

Hongkong, 13th June, 1900.

The Directors.—The Hongkong Electric Company, Limited.

Gentlemen, I have to report that, on the 1st June, the lamps and fans connected to the Company's incandescent lighting mains were equivalent to about 10,600 lamps of 8 candle-power.

Underground cables have been laid down extending the Company's service to Kennedy and Macdonnell Roads and the Queen's Gardens District.

The number of arc lamps now in operation is 84, 2 additional lamps having been erected in H. M. Naval Yard during the year.

The power supply service is at present operating 7 lifts on the Reclamation.

During the past year the incandescent lighting plant has been increased by laying down a new engine, alternator and boiler. These, however, were not delivered in time to operate during the heavier Winter loads, and in consequence, the Company's available plant was severely taxed on many occasions.

The plant and machinery have been maintained in good working order.

I remain, gentlemen, your obedient servant,
W. H. WICKHAM,
Manager.

HONGKONG VOLUNTEER CORPS.

"C" MACHINE GUN COMPANY.

The above company's monthly shoot took place yesterday forenoon at the Kowloon ranges, when there was a very fair turn out considering the unsettled state of the weather. The Captain Potts and Gubbay Cups were shot for and Gunner Shoolbred registered his first win in these competitions. The following are the best scores:—

Names.	200 yds.	400 yds.	500 yds.	H'cap.	Total
* Gunner Shoolbred	29	28	24	17	98
* Gunner Galbraith	20	23	30	19	92
* Gunner C. Lee	25	18	19	21	83
Bomb. Berkley	25	26	10	21	82
Sergeant Smillie	27	30	14	7	78

* Spoon Winners.

THE HONGKONG RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

LONG RANGE CUP AND SPOONS.

Sergeant-Major Wallace, R.E., scored his second win for this Cup on Saturday with a total score of 93, thirteen members competing. Scores:—

	600 yds.	700 yds.	800 yds.	Handicap.	Total.
* J. M. Wallace, R.E.	28	32	33	—	93
* Mr. Hurthouse	22	26	22	20	91
* Corp. Hills, R.E.	30	32	28	—	90
Mr. Watson	31	33	26	—	90
Mr. A. Mackenzie	26	33	29	—	88
Mr. C. Cameron	28	26	22	10	86
Mr. G. W. May	23	23	20	20	86
Mr. Wodehouse	15	29	19	20	83
Mr. Northcote	19	19	26	15	79

* Winners of Spoons.

HONGKONG.

Within the last few months one or two prisoners who have been committed for trial and who have been allowed out on bail have not answered to their names at the Criminal Sessions, and their bails have been escheated. In one case the Chief Justice remarked on the smallness of the amount deposited. Mr. Hazeland is evidently determined not to err in this respect, for at the Magistracy on the 28th inst. he almost took away the breath of Mr. Reece, solicitor, when he told him he would allow a client of his charged with being in unlawful possession out on bail to the amount of \$1,000 being forthcoming.

Sung Yeung's fondness for cheap mutton has brought him into trouble, he being sentenced to a month's imprisonment at the Magistracy on the 25th inst. for endeavouring to get away with a leg to which he had no right. The cook of the S.S. Formosa was returning from the Central Market with a fine piece of sheep in a basket when the defendant noticed him. The sight of the mutton evidently made his mouth water, for he grabbed it and took to his heels with it under his arms. A lukong who had witnessed the incident gave chase and caught him. Though the evidence against him was overwhelming, he tried to make Mr. Hazeland believe that he did not become possessed of the mutton dishonestly. He said that he was on the look out for a nice leg and he met a boy carrying one. He thought he could buy the meat cheaper from the boy than from a butcher, so he stopped him and they were bargaining when the lukong came up.

At the offices of the Public Works Department on the 25th inst. Mr. G. J. W. King offered for public competition seven lots of Crown land at Yaumati and one at Ma Tau Kok. The Yaumati lots (six of which are for Chinese tenements) were sold as follows:—Lot 1087, bought by Pun Sing for \$20,350 (upset \$20,010); lot 1088, bought by Lee Kee and Tam Ho for \$4,660 (upset \$3,300); lot 1089, bought by Chan Shan for \$6,740 (upset \$4,500); lot 1090, bought by San Hip Chee for \$6,820 (upset \$4,500); lot 1091, bought by Mr. A. J. Raymond for \$7,500 (upset \$4,800); lot 1092, bought by Lee Kee and Tam Ho for \$9,040 (upset \$5,400); lot 1093, bought by Tam Ho for \$9,220 (upset \$5,400). The lot at Ma Tau Kok (lot 1094), was sold to Messrs. Punchard, Lowther and Co. for \$9,000 (upset \$7,500).

A serious affray took place in a barber's shop at 20, Wing Kat Street, on the 25th inst., in the absence of the master. A message was received asking that someone might be sent to shave a customer at his home. There were three assistants in the shop at the time, viz., Chuk Tin, Sin Hung, and Lau Wai, and an altercation took place as to which of them should go. The upshot was that Sin Hung made a slash at Chuk Tin with a razor which he had in his hand and inflicted a serious wound extending some distance down the left side. Chuk Tin said that Lau Wai incited the other man to do this. The police were informed of what had taken place and the lot were taken to the police station, Sin Hung and Lau Wai being detained in custody.

A fine of \$25 was imposed upon the master of a junk at the Magistracy on the 22nd inst. for being in possession of arms without a license. A number of arms were mentioned on the declaration paper, but a rifle and a revolver were found hidden away.

The police at West Point have known for some time that gambling has been going on at 51, High Street, but before the 21st inst. they had been unable to catch the offenders in the act. Sergeant O'Sullivan and several lukongs visited the house at about 11 a.m. on the 21st inst. and found quite a crowd of men playing Ngau Pai. They made 17 arrests, and the defendants were brought before Mr. Hazeland at the Magistracy on the 22nd inst. The two keepers of the houses were each fined \$10, or a month, and the rest \$2 each, or eight days.

The *Zafiro* arrived from Manila on the 23rd inst. with some 160 officers and men for the U.S.S. *Oregon* and a few for the *Don Juan de Austria*, which is now at Canton. The *Oregon* left for the north on the evening of the 23rd. The *Zafiro* returned to Manila on the 28th inst. and from there will go up north with stores.

From the Return of the Acting Registrar of the Supreme Court it appears that the number of convictions in the Superior Courts for the years 1896, 1897, 1898, and 1899 have been as follows:—For Offences against the Person, 15, 24, 19, 49; For Offences against Property, 10, 10, 17, 18; For other Offences, 2, 5, 3, 10. The number of acquittals have been:—In the Marine Magistrate's Court, 6, 3, 17, 2; In the Superior Courts, 32, 28, 15, 21.

Mr. Hazeland imposed another fine of \$100 at the Magistracy on the 23rd inst. for a breach of the Post Office Ordinance. The offender was Han Hongfu, the tallyman of the *Michael Jebsen*. Sergeant Terret saw him on the Praya on Saturday morning in possession of a large basket, which he was taking towards a sampan. The Sergeant stopped him, and on examining the basket found that it contained letters addressed to Haiphong, whither the *Michael Jebsen* was going.

The other day a Chinaman who had been sentenced to six months' hard labour escaped from the prisoners' detaining room, and on the 27th inst. the lukong (No. 266) who had charge of him was brought up at the Magistracy for neglect of duty. Mr. Hazeland informed him that it was a very disgraceful thing. It was a grave neglect of duty. This was the second time a prisoner had been allowed to escape. It was a very serious charge. The lukong would be fined \$10.

The appointment of Lieut. A. H. Stewart, of the "C" Machine Gun Company, Hongkong Volunteers, to act as Adjutant of the Corps in the place of Captain Bland, absent on duty is notified in the *Gazette*.

A man who had been several times convicted and served a term of banishment was brought before Mr. Hazeland charged with larceny on board a junk at Shaukiwan early on the 27th inst. He was seen leaving the junk with a pillar box in his hand. An alarm was raised and the man was captured by an Indian constable with the box in his possession. He was sentenced to six months imprisonment, to be followed by a term of banishment. Another man who was found in possession of a pair of trousers missing from the junk was discharged.

In order to be prepared for any disturbance on the part of the Chinese in the New Territory, three machine guns were sent over there on the 24th inst. and some 40 police, the latter being marines recently arrived from home.

At the Harbour Office on the 23rd inst., before Mr. Basil Taylor, Walter Harris, a seaman on board the *Glenshee*, was charged with wilfully disobeying the lawful commands of the master. Captain Burn said the defendant went ashore without leave. On his return he told him he would have to forfeit two days' pay. He then refused to do any more work in the ship. The defendant was sentenced to 14 days hard labour, or until the ship sails.

On the 23rd inst. it was discovered that the officers' mess at Murray Barracks had been entered during the night and \$60 stolen from the safe, which had been opened by a false key.

To the Register of qualified Medical and Surgical Practitioners in the Colony the name of José Losada has been added.

On the 25th inst. a Chinaman who was working on board a vessel in Kowloon Docks fell down the hold and was killed.

A house at Shaukiwan collapsed on the 25th inst. and the occupant—a carpenter—was so seriously injured thereby that he had to be taken to the Hospital.

A carpenter named Yueng Hing, who was sentenced to six months' hard labour at the Magistracy on the 26th inst. for theft, made a bold bid for freedom and got clear away. After being sentenced he was taken into the prisoner's detention room. The lukong who had charge of him happened to turn his back, and in an instant the man was out of the room and racing across the courtyard. A European constable gave chase, but the more lightly-clad Chinaman soon increased the distance between them and was lost to sight.

The police are busily engaged endeavouring to secure the perpetrators of a dastardly outrage in the harbour on the 21st inst. Three men engaged a sampan at Hunghom launch wharf to take them over to Sai Cho Wan, beyond Kowloon City. When they got there they got ashore, telling the sampan people to wait for them. After an absence of half-an-hour they returned. On the way back to Hunghom two of the men produced choppers while the third took the helm. The men with the choppers attacked a blind old man, cutting him severely about the hands and legs. They also attacked a woman, a blow intended for her hitting a child. The thieves stole a quantity of clothing, a gold bangle ring, valued at \$24, and some money. Fortunately there was some money secreted in the boat which escaped their notice. Having forced the crew below, the men rowed the sampan ashore near North Point and then cleared off. The affair was reported at No. 2 Police Station.

The plague figures for the week ending the 23rd inst. were 63 cases and 57 deaths. The cases for the year now number 748 and the deaths 686.

MISCELLANEOUS.

There was a meeting of prominent Filipinos the 21st inst. at the house of Don Pedro Paterno, Manila, with a view to consider how to bring to an end the present state of war in the islands. The desire for peace was generally expressed, and the recent amnesty strengthened the feeling that pressure should be put on Aguinaldo. The following proposals were adopted:—Expulsion of the Friars; Exercise of personal right to be guaranteed to the Filipinos, the same as to Americans according to their constitution; Establishment of civil government in Manila and the provinces; The return of confiscated property; Revolutionary generals to be given employment in the native militia, when formed; Filipino funds to be used in aid of needy Filipino soldiers.

Word has reached Kobe that the work of raising the steamer *Morgan City*, sunk in the Inland Sea near Onomichi, is not proceeding satisfactorily, and it is expected that no more attempts will be made to raise her from her present position. She will be probably sold by auction as she lies.

It is proposed to form in Singapore a "Straits Chinese British Association." There has for some time been a general desire among a large and representative body of Chinese in Singapore, who are British subjects, that such an Association should be formed. The objects are the promotion of loyalty to the Empire and the furtherance of the interests of the British Chinese themselves.

The Ninth U. S. Infantry Regiment was due to start from Manila on Wednesday and is likely to go by the transport *Logan* via Nagasaki, where some more coal may be shipped. It is stated that the 17th and 12th Infantries will follow as fast as transportation can be arranged for them, and when they can be relieved from their present stations, which are along the railway between Tarlac and Dagupan. All the men and officers are elated at the prospect of exchanging Manila for China.

The following is an extract of a Proclamation issued on the 19th inst. by Yu, Taotai of Shanghai:—As the Boxers have lately created disturbances in the vicinity of Peking, in a cosmopolitan place like Shanghai, there is every reason to believe that many evil characters are amongst the good, and outlaws and loafers may under such pretext rise and incite the people to do mischief. The people ought to know that Magic is but absurd and can never last long, and once an order to quell them is issued their heads will surely be separated from their persons; if so they are too late to repent. In order that an early preparation for safety should be made, I have requested and obtained permission from the Viceroy and Governor that strong forces may be procured, and stationed at Shanghai for the purpose of keeping good guard and affording protection. It is hoped that various classes of people after seeing this notice will not listen to and believe the false and excited rumours, but will quietly go to their own proper occupation and daily work as usual.

It appears that the C. N. S. *Shengking* on her arrival at Weihaiwei on the 16th inst. was officially searched for concealed ammunition—a course taken as the result of information from Shanghai that she carried ammunition for Tientsin, to the amount of 100,000 rounds. Every facility was given by Messrs. Butterfield and Swire for this search. They were quite unaware that the *Shengking* carried anything of the sort. She left on the same day for Chefoo, where she might have to discharge. A marine guard was placed on board to accompany her to Chefoo.

A New York despatch to Manila, dated 16th June reports that Mr. Root, U.S. Secretary of War, has finally yielded on the question of officers' wives joining their husbands in the Philippines. Some eight months ago the Secretary of War made a statement discouraging the officers' wives from going to the Philippines, saying that Manila was no place for women during war time, and obstructions were placed in their way by the refusal of transportation from America on the Government transports. Now, the war being practically over, facilities will be given for officers' wives to join their husbands.

It has come to our notice, says the *Kobe Chronicle*, that a rumour is being circulated among the foreigners in Kobe as to the instability of one of the leading Japanese undertakings in the country. We have made inquiries, and as far as we can ascertain there is no foundation for the report. It is quite true that the disturbances in China have seriously affected the raw cotton and cotton yarn markets, but it seems very improbable that such an old-established and highly connected undertaking as the one referred to should experience any difficulties from what it is hoped will prove but a temporary interference with trade. We have been unable to trace the rumour to its source, but as far as we know it is only in circulation among foreigners, who may incur some loss through over-hasty action without in any way injuring the credit of the firm.

The well-known Chinese Filipino leader, General Pau, who surrendered a short time ago to the U. S. forces, after an investigation into the charges brought against him by the people of Legaspi has been acquitted and thus returned to the status of an insurrectionary ex-chief. He took the oath of allegiance and was released on the 28th inst.

The *Straits Times* reports great excitement at the Taiping Post Office some days ago, when some 80,000 four cent stamps, surcharged one cent, were offered for sale, and again on the 15th instant when a like number of five cent stamps, similarly surcharged were for sale. The Post Office was besieged from an early hour. Some who managed to secure considerable numbers of these stamps have realised profits, averaging from four hundred to five hundred per cent.

An island is to be selected for the segregation of the lepers in the Philippines. A Board of Officers was to meet yesterday, if possible, at Manila to select an island, prepare plans, etc.

The *Daily Echo* reported on the 23rd inst.:—All is quiet here and there seems no cause to apprehend trouble. The Viceroy has shown great friendliness and is ready to offer any protection to foreigners in case of need. There have been some few soldiers sent on to the Settlement and others are in readiness a short distance away. The forts at the mouth of the river have been well supplied with men.

The *N.-C. Daily News* published the following telegram from the North, which has been received in Shanghai:—Prince Ching, the Grand Secretary Hsu Tung, Kang Yi, and Ch'i Hsiu have presented a joint memorial to the Empress Dowager exhorting her to take the Emperor with her to Hsian, the capital of Shensi province, which is intended to be the future capital of the Reactionist party, to proclaim the Heir Apparent, Pu Chun, as Emperor immediately, and leave Prince Tuan, his father, and the troops in the North to fight it out with the Foreign Powers. The Empress Dowager is still hesitating to embark on such a momentous step. Jung Lu is the only high Minister who has consistently held to the policy of suppressing the *I Ho Chuan* and making terms with the Powers.

On the 14th inst. the Emperor of Corea gave audience to the Japanese Representative in Seoul. His Majesty expressed regret for the torturing and execution of An and Kwong, and explained that it took place without his knowledge. He added that the responsible officials had been punished.

Letters dated as long back as May 15-18 from the French Consulate at Yunnan-fu are published in a copy recently to hand of *L'Avenir du Tonkin*, from which it appears that as early as then the French residents were prisoners in the Consulate and maintaining their position with arms in their hands. M. François on his arrival at Mengtze was accused by the Chinese of importing arms across the border into the Yunnan, and his baggage was searched. This led to altercations and the baggage-convey had to be escorted to the Consulate by an armed force. The Chinese Viceroy was absent, but his representative demanded the surrender of 30 guns, which he asserted has been brought by the Consul. "This," says *L'Avenir*, "is the number given by the Chinese, but it is not correct." M. François repused point blank to give up any guns, and was then told that the Consulate would be attacked. On the 16th all the French residents were summoned to the Consulate and informed that their safety could not be guaranteed if they remained outside. 23 in all arrived at the building, including missionaries, the military, and private individuals. Arms were distributed and watches organised. The telegraph-line had been cut and the most alarming rumours were circulating, while the abandoned houses were looted by the Chinese troops. On the 16th the English residents came and asked for protection. This was extended to them, and one man, four women, and two children were brought in. The consulate unfortunately, the correspondent points out, was a mere "mouse-trap," and would be untenable in the events of a siege. Such was the situation on the 18th, when the letters were despatched, but since then *L'Avenir* reports the rumour that M. François and the refugees had got away to Lao-kay, and that they had probably been rescued by a party from Mengtze.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED KINGDOM AND CONTINENT.

	1900-1	1899-00
	lbs.	lbs.
Hankow and Shanghai	—	—
Amoy	—	—
Foochow	527,431	688,318
Canton	—	—

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1900-1	1899-00
Shanghai	—	—
Amoy	127,695	15,539,91
Foochow	—	—

CAMPBOR.

HONGKONG, 29th June.—The price is going up, holders being firm. Quotations for Formosa are:—\$92.00 to \$92.50; sales 200 piculs.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 29th June.—The tone of the market having improved, the prices are going up a little. Quotations are:—

Shekloong, No. 1, White	\$7.78 to \$7.82 pcl.
do. " 2, White	7.15 to 7.20 "
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown	5.33 to 5.37 "
do. " 2, Brown	5.14 to 5.18 "
Swatow, No. 1, White	7.80 to 7.85 "
do. " 1, White	7.20 to 7.25 "
Swatow, No. 1, Brown	5.15 to 5.20 "
do. " 2, Brown	5.05 to 5.10 "
Foochow Sugar Candy	11.70 to 11.75 "
Shekloong "	10.20 to 10.30 "

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per German steamer *Sachsen*, sailed on the 4th June. For Naples:—4 cases curios. For Genoa:—449 bales raw silk, 370 bales canes, 200 boxes cassia and 1 case curios. For Barcelona:—100 boxes cassia. For Trieste:—127 $\frac{1}{2}$ -chests tea, 100 boxes cassia and 44 chests tea. For Genoa/Hamburg:—80 bales canes. For New York:—126 cases essential oil. For Antwerp:—259 bales bamboo scraps, 150 rolls matting, 6 cases Chinaware, 3 cases cigars, and 1 case blackwoodware. For Antwerp/London Hamburg:—19 cases bristles. For Amsterdam:—40 cases Chinaware. For Rotterdam:—250 boxes cassia. For London:—50 cases bristles and 15 cases essential oil. For Bremen:—250 boxes tea, 114 rolls matting, 42 chest, and 28 $\frac{1}{2}$ -chests tea. For Baltimore:—2 mses cigars and 1 case Chinaware. For Brecaen/Hamburg: 90 packages tea. For Hamburg:—1,063 boxes, 1,056 packages, 211 $\frac{1}{2}$ -chests and 95 chests tea, 70 bales feathers, 44 cases bristles, 20 cases essential oil, 16 cases blackwoodware, 14 rolls matting and 7 cases human hair. For Hamburg Copenhagen:—59 bales rattanore.

Per steamer *Agamemnon*, sailed on the 13th June. For London:—801 boxes and 176 $\frac{1}{2}$ -chests tea from Amoy, 333 boxes tea (6,660 lbs.) Orange Pekoe and 3,006 boxes tea (63,126 lbs.) Sc. Caper, 11,673 bales hemp, 100 bales feathers, 75 rolls matting, 110 casks and 10 cases ginger, 51 cases Chinaware, 8 cases blackwoodware, 5 cases copperware, 23 cases cigars, 3 cases confectionery, 10 cases bristles, 4 cases feathersdusters, and 17 packages sundries. For London opt. Manchester:—250 bales waste silk. For London opt. Hamburg:—59 bales canes and 44 cases feathers. For Hamburg:—100 casks wood oil.

Per P. & O. steamer *Clyde*, sailed on the 23rd June. For London:—1 case cigars from Manila, 100 bales canes, 1 case cigars, 15 cases bristles, 2 packages samples, 70 rolls mats, 756 boxes tea, 252 bales raw silk, 2 cases silks and 4 cases sundries. For Manchester:—75 bales waste silk. For Marseilles:—237 bales raw silk, 30 bales canes, 2 cases feathers, 11 cases hair and 1 case silks. For Lyons:—448 bales raw silk. For St. Chamond:—25 bales raw silk. For St. Etienne:—10 bales raw silk. For Milan:—5 bales raw silk.

Per steamer *Indus*, sailed on the 18th June. For Marseilles:—260 bales raw silk, 6 bales waste silk, 23 cases silks, 6 cases woodenware, 1 case curios, 904 packages tea, and 48 packages matting. For Lyons:—493 bales raw silk. For London:—40 bales raw silk, 2 bales waste silk and 60 rolls matting.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 29th June.—On account of the trouble in the North we regret that we cannot give any reliable quotations.

STOCK.

Patna	700
Benares	200
Malwa	400
Persian	2,200

COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIUM MARKET.

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	New.	Old.	New.	Old.	New.	Old.
1900.	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
June 24	997 $\frac{1}{2}$	1,085	997 $\frac{1}{2}$	1,045	880	910/40
June 25	997 $\frac{1}{2}$	1,085	997 $\frac{1}{2}$	1,045	880	910/40
June 26	997 $\frac{1}{2}$	1,085	997 $\frac{1}{2}$	1,045	880	910/40
June 27	997 $\frac{1}{2}$	1,085	997 $\frac{1}{2}$	1,045	880	910/40
June 28	997 $\frac{1}{2}$	1,085	997 $\frac{1}{2}$	1,045	880	910/40
June 29	997 $\frac{1}{2}$	1,085	997 $\frac{1}{2}$	1,045	880	910/40

RICE.

HONGKONG, 20th June.—Prices are declining, market being weak. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary	\$2.90 to 2.95
" Round, Good quality	3.05 to 3.10
" Long	3.25 to 3.30
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2	3.00 to 3.05
" Garden, " No. 1	3.30 to 3.35
" White	4.05 to 4.10
" Fine Cargo	4.25 to 4.30

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 29th JUNE.—Among the sales reported during the week are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS.—*Bombay Yarn*:—50 bales No. 8 at \$86, 1,050 bales No. 10 at \$80 to \$94, 650 bales No. 12 at \$86 to \$92, 250 bales No. 16 at \$94 to \$99, 1,100 bales No. 20 at \$92 to \$100.

METALS.—*Lead*:—50 slabs New Mark at \$78.50.

COTTON YARN—per bale
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20s.....\$ 77.00 to \$102.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24.....114.00 to 120.00
" 22 to 24.....116.00 to 122.00
" 28 to 32.....129.00 to 133.00
" 38 to 42.....147.00 to 154.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS—per piece
Grey Shirtings—6 lbs.....2.00 to 2.10
7 lbs.....2.20 to 2.25
8.4 lbs.....2.75 to 3.60
9 to 10 lbs.....3.70 to 4.65
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd. 2.55 to 2.75
58 to 60 " 3.00 to 3.75
64 to 66 " 4.00 to 4.75
Fine5.00 to 7.75
Book-folds.....4.35 to 6.25
Victoria Lawns—12 yards0.75 to 1.50
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y. 1.65 to 1.80
7lbs. (32 ") " 1.90 to 2.10
6lbs. (32 ") Mexs. 1.80 to 2.00
7lbs. (32 ") " 2.35 to 2.70
8 to 8.4 oz. (36 in.) 2.70 to 3.40
Drills, English—40 yds., 14 to 16 lbs.....4.10 to 7.00

FANCY COTTONS—
Turkey Red Shirtings—1 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 8 lbs } 1.70 to 7.00

Brocades—Dyed4.20 to 5.20
Chintzes—Assorted0.08 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 0.17
Velvets—Black, 22 in.0.26 to 0.65
Velveteens—18 in.0.23 to 0.28

Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk 0.40 to 2.50

WOOLLENS—per yard
Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops 0.90 to 1.70

Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths 1.55 to 1.75

Long Ells—Scarlet6.70 to 10.30

Assorted6.80 to 10.40

Camlets—Assorted12.50 to 21.00

Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches, Assorted } 11.50 to 22.00

Orleans—Plain8.50 to 10.00

Blankets—8 to 12 lbs.4.20 to 16.00

METALS—per picul

Iron—Nail Rod5.75 to —

Square, Flat Round Bar (Eng.) 5.75 to —

26, S. Rickmers, British str., from Foochow.
 27, Lyeemoon, German str., from Canton.
 27, Banca, British str., from London.
 27, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
 27, Hating, French str., from Haiphong.
 27, Anping, Chinese str., from Canton.
 27, Hermes, Norwegian str., from Canton.
 27, Inaba Maru, Jap. str., from Yokohama.
 27, Thyra, Norwegian str., from Portland.
 28, Oldenburg, German str., from Yokohama.
 28, Chingtu, British str., from Sydney.
 28, Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
 28, Mazagon, British str., from Kobe.
 28, Tamsui Maru, Japanese str., from Tamsui.
 28, Taksang, British str., from Chefoo.
 28, Taisang, British str., from Canton.
 29, Terrier, Norwegian str., from Singapore.
 29, Machew, British str., from Bangkok.
 29, Arratoon Apear, Brit. str., from Calcutta.
 29, Sullberg, German str., from Canton.
 29, Arara, British str., from New York.
 29, Formosa, British str., from Swatow.
 29, Ragnar, Norwegian str., from Canton.

June— DEPARTURES.

23, Clyde, British str., for Europe.
 23, Valetta, British str., for Shanghai.
 23, Hailan, French str., for Pakhoi.
 23, Trym, Norw. str., for Newchwang.
 23, Kweiyang, British str., for Cebu.
 23, Wingsang, British str., for Swatow.
 23, Lyeemoon, German str., for Canton.
 23, Redpole, British gunboat, for Canton.
 24, Haiching, British str., for Swatow.
 24, Maidzuru Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
 24, Australian, British str., for Australia.
 24, Burdon, British str., for Moji.
 24, Hikosan Maru, Jap. str., for Nagasaki.
 24, Yawata Maru, Jap. str., for Nagasaki.
 24, Oregon, Amr. battleship, for Taku.
 24, St. Quentin, Brit. str., for Gulf of Pechili.
 24, Michael Jensen, German str., for Haiphong.
 24, Ragnar, Norw. str., for Canton.
 25, Amara, British str., for Kobe.
 25, Hailoong, British str., for Taku.
 25, Meefoo, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 25, Kong Bang, British str., for Swatow.
 25, Petrarch, German str., for Saigon.
 25, Meridian, British str., for Java.
 25, Taisang, British str., for Canton.
 25, America Maru, Jap. str., for San Francisco.
 26, Wm. H. Smith, Amr. sh., for Puget Sound.
 26, Hoihao, French str., for Hoihow.
 26, Szechuen, British str., for Moji.
 26, Hunan, British str., for Moji.
 26, Cheang H. Kian, British str., for Amoy.
 26, Apenrade, German str., for Haiphong.
 26, Formosa, British str., for Swatow.
 26, Calanda, Norwegian str., for Kobe.
 26, Kintuck, British str., for Shanghai.
 26, Suisang, British str., for Calcutta.
 26, Foochow, British str., for Canton.
 26, Fushun, Chinese str., for Canton.
 27, Pique, British cruiser, for Woosung.
 27, Pigmy, British gunboat, for Woosung.
 27, Empress of India, Brit. str., for V. conner.
 27, Clara, German str., for Hoihow.
 27, Decima, German str., for Pakhoi.
 27, Anping Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
 27, Hokoku Maru, Jap. str., for Canton.
 27, Hue, French str., for Haiphong.
 27, Jason, British str., for Amoy.
 27, Hongkong, French str., for Haiphong.
 27, Chunsang, British str., for Swatow.
 27, Loyat, German str., for Bangkok.
 27, Diamante, British str., for Manila.
 27, Kaifong, British str., for Manila.
 27, Hart, British torpedo boat destroyer, for Woosung.
 28, Stuttgart, German str., for Shanghai.
 28, Tategami Maru, Jap. str., for Nagasaki.
 28, Hermes, Norw. str., for Hongay.
 28, Thales, British str., for Hongay.
 28, Min, British str., for Newcastle.
 28, Kwangping, Chinese str., for Canton.
 28, Oldenburg, Ger. str., for Europe.
 28, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
 28, Yorihome Maru, Jap. str., for Keelung.
 28, Anping, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 29, Antenor, British str., for London.
 29, Inaba Maru, Japanese str., for London.
 29, Futami Maru, Japanese str., for Sydney.
 29, S. Rickmers, Brit. str., for Balik Papan.
 29, Yuensang, British str., for Manila.
 29, Lyeemoon, German str., for Shanghai.
 29, Hating, French str., for Hoihow.
 29, Hanoi, French str., for Haiphong.
 29, Taisang, British str., for Shanghai.

PASSENGERS LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Valetta*, for Hongkong, from Lon'on.
 Lieut. Simpson, Dr. R. Gibson, Capt. J. C. Sawle, Messrs. J. L. Houston, F. H. Hebblethwaite, F. Colson, G. Glover, W. Davidson, G. Duncan, H. Cooper, J. Bellam, Butcher, Mr. and Mrs. Cumminskey and infant, Surg. J. C. Watt, Mr. J. H. Stimpson, Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Merchant, child and infant; from Marseilles, Messrs. J. P. Mackintosh and E. Hodreger; from Brindisi, Mr. S. D. Thomas; from Colombo, Mr. F. C. Fletcher; from Penang, Messrs. G. E. J. Litton and native servant, L. E. J. Wolferton; from Singapore, Messrs. C. A. V. Banderio, B. R. M. de Brito, Mrs. J. C. S. G. de Menezes and two children, Messrs. Chandanenan and Aymchenan; for Yokohama, from London, Messrs. Christopherson and R. B. Stewart; from Marseilles, Mr. A. Clark; for Shanghai, from London, Messrs. W. Howell, R. C. Alers, Sir John Lister Kaye, Messrs. J. Lasker, Geerloss and G. E. Zwozowski.

Per *Phranang*, from Bangkok, Messrs. C. Simpson, S. Kodera, Kung King Seng, J. Mikame, Mrs. Cheeseman.

Per *Glenogle*, from Tacoma, &c., Capt. McNab.

Per *Yawata Maru*, from Australia for Hongkong, Messrs. R. E. Stephens, J. Craig, F. P. Evans, Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. Nuttall, Messrs. O. Preston and S. D. Ames, Miss L. A. Owen, Capt. G. E. Ide, U.S.N., Mr. W. M. Robertson, Mr. and Mrs. McDougall, Mr. and Mrs. H. Jameson, Mr. S. Northwood, Miss H. Nagaye, Mr. K. Ide; for Yokohama, Messrs. J. Lynch, Domingo Garcia and Crispulo Zamora. Passengers passed through:—Messrs. H. Gardener, W. R. Cureton, Colonel G. B. Austin, Messrs. W. P. Hood and Thos. Pringle, Mr. and Mrs. Bowyer Smyth, Dr. and Mrs. J. Lanterer, Mr. and Mrs. W. Collins, Mrs. Sato, Mrs. P. Cowen and Mr. Isaacs.

Per *Formosa*, from Taiwanfoo, &c., Rev. and Mrs. W. Campbell, Messrs. Schröler, H. Arthur, R. Hurley and E. Shoon Lee.

Per *Diamante*, from Manila, Messrs. Hubbard, A. Juste and Halliday, Miss Fiangeo, Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Kellam.

Per *Kwang Ping*, from Taku, &c., Mr. Gordon Hoskins.

Per *Haimun*, from Tamsui, &c., Mrs. Sullivan and five children.

Per *Yuensang*, from Manila, Mrs. Thomas, Mrs. Flores, Messrs. M. Allis, W. S. Richards, H. R. Paulsen, Capt. F. R. Gilmore, Messrs. S. S. Lichane and J. Cannan.

Per *Futami Maru*, from Nagasaki, for Hongkong, Mr. and Mrs. Imamura; for Manila, Mrs. and Miss Brannersreuther, Mr. Holly V. Hill, Lieut. Geo. B. Rodney, Mr. C. T. Page, Lieut. C. L. Willard, Mrs. Jones and three children, Messrs. D. Earnshaw, L. I. Cook, I. Inkarnations, P. Pasena, N. A. Jensen, Mrs. Lavoury, Messrs. A. Peterson, J. J. Danahue and Thom Leahy; for Townsville, Mr. A. Lister; for Sydney, Bishop and Mrs. W. Andry, Messrs. F. M. Gunmow and Lees Milne, Mrs. Moses, Miss L. Moses, Miss E. Moses and Mr. Von Gramatski; for Melbourne, Messrs. Scott and R. E. Richardson.

Per *Stuttgart*, from Bremen, Mr. and Mrs. Call, Messrs. Ewald and Katsenkamp, Dr. Haker, Messrs. Zuffernbau, Berald, Schumacker, F. Whittz, S. Fisher, Davison and Belaseriki.

Per *City of Peking*, for Hongkong, from San Francisco, Mrs. R. L. Bullard, Messrs. Lee Bullard, Clary Bullard, Miss Rose Bullard, Mrs. P. G. Wales, Messrs. Philip Wales, Victor Wales and Dr. H. Adamsen.

Per *Haitan*, from Coast Ports, Mrs. J. Douglas and child and Mr. Fuchs.

Per *Taksang*, from Chefoo, Mr. and Mrs. Newton, two children and two amahs.

Per *Chingtu*, from Sydney, &c., Mrs. Smiles and maid, Misses H. Daly and M. Daly, Messrs. P. H. Holt, W. Wandcock, G. Bruton, E. Coleman, S. Anderson and A. E. Parr.

Per *Inaba Maru*, from Yokohama, for Hongkong, Messrs. M. Fukumoto, Y. Osaki, S. Hara, M. Itoh and H. Iwasaki; for Marseilles, Messrs. M. Takemouchi, C. Nishimura, M. Hoshi, A. Fukuwara, K. Kitazato, M. Kawagoye, G. Ohara, M. Ohba, G. Fujita and T. Inoue; for London, Capt. G. Hayazaki, Comdr. K. Arima, Comdr. M. Takashima, Comdr. K. Asakura, Paymaster M. Iai, Instructor of Machinery, T. Kato, Chief Engr. S. Ohashi, Chief Surgeon Y. Tachibana,

Sub-Lieut. K. Yamanashi, Petty Officer T. Nagioka, Petty Officer S. Inouye, Petty Officer T. Ohba, Petty Officer U. Moroi, Petty Officer Y. Yoshise, Chief Carpenter D. Nishimura, Messrs. T. Wheeler, W. Jones, S. J. Hills and S. Alder.

Per *Oldenburg*, from Yokohama, for Hongkong, Major Dorellull, Major S. G. Everitt, Lieut. B. Wild, J. M. Wakefield, R. F. Peiniger, Major Buttavshin, Messrs. H. Peter and Charles Duce; for Singapore, Mr. Shewell; for Penang, Mr. Grant Brown; for Genoa, Messrs. Bent, T. Imaidzuni and K. Hirota; for Antwerp, Mr. Ad. Hohnholz; from Hiogo, for London, Mr. James Riche; for Bremen, Mr. Hugh Knox; from Nagasaki, for Singapore, Messrs. Jatsu Nishigori, Hatsu Nishigama and Aki Jenu; for Port Said, Mr. M. D'jawachavitch; for Southampton, Mr. James Flett; from Shanghai, for Hongkong, Engr. von der Heyde, Miss Steer, Mr. G. Bretthauer, Mrs. Borner, Messrs. John Spalkhaven, N. G. Evans, F. Schmellitschek, M. Barrett, W. Brumfield, Mrs. Acheson; for Penang, Mr. Mees; for Genoa, Mr. J. S. Ker, Miss Casiraghi, Messrs. Thomas and Stienon; for Southampton, Messrs. John Hartley and Middleton; for London, Miss Armstrong; for Bremen, Mr. H. Siebert and Mrs. Mankisch; for Hamburg, Messrs. Emil Hach, J. F. Moller and F. M. Ulbricht; from Foochow, for Hongkong, Mrs. J. Bollet and Mrs. Gourlavuen.

DEPARTED.

Per *Clyde*, from Hongkong, for Singapore, Mr. A. L. Hussan; for Penang, Mr. G. A. Hall; for London, Mr. David Glass, Mr. and Mrs. Hatherley, Messrs. Hatherley, Jr., T. C. Coleman and J. Q. Smith; from Shanghai, for London, Mr. A. McAlister, Miss Patterson, Miss Norden, Messrs. W. Fergusson, J. S. Erskine and G. W. Duncan.

Per *Valetta*, for Shanghai, from Hongkong, Mrs. Percy Scott, Messrs. J. Cochrane, Hamm and T. C. Stafford; from Marseilles, Messrs. J. Lasker, Geerloss and Geryowski; from London, Messrs. W. Howell and R. C. Aiers.

Per *America Maru*, for Nagasaki, Mr. T. Mashiyama; for Yokohama, Rev. W. Campbell; for San Francisco, Capt. Geo. Edo, U.S.N., Mr. Ord. Preston, Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Kellan, Miss Eva Louis, Messrs. S. D. Ames and F. P. Gilmore.

Per *Empress of India*, from Hongkong, for Shanghai, Mons. Henri Tullim, Mons. A. M. T. Beneyton, Messrs. James Daly, M. Kelly and H. B. Wheeler; for Yokohama, Mr. R. E. W. Kirby, Mr. and Mrs. D. R. Crawford, Miss Roy, Mrs. Caldwell, two children and nurse, Mrs. W. H. Williams, Miss Lewis, Messrs. R. M. Ezekiel, E. Sherwin, J. Molloy and Dr. G. M. Harston; for Nagasaki, Mr. E. Roese; for Victoria, Mr. H. R. Paulsen; for Vancouver, Messrs. J. Hammond, John Halliday and Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Woodhead; for Boston, Mrs. C. C. Hing and infant; for Banff, Capt. H. B. des Voeux; for London, Messrs. A. P. Stokes, A. Brooke Smith, G. J. L. Litton, L. E. P. Wolferton, F. E. Fletcher, Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. R. McDougall, Messrs. R. E. Stephens, J. Craig, Dr. R. L. Price, Mr. and Mrs. A. Nuttall, Messrs. A. W. Stewart, M. Christopherson and C. Winney; from Yokohama, for London, Miss M. A. Empson, Miss B. C. Empson and maid.

Per *Diamante*, for Manila, Messrs. B. Metzger, J. Rivera, A. Osorio, F. Aguado, R. Basa, S. Angeles, H. Angeles, Chua Guejaat, E. Ligertwood, J. Crichton, B. Logan, Mrs. L. Fernandez and five children, Mr. A. Fernandez, Miss M. Santos, Miss I. del Rosario, Mr. Brooks, Mr. W. Taffenbruch, Mrs. Bullard and three children, Mrs. Wales and two children, Messrs. F. Kalenkamp, K. Bezold, Te Teco and J. Manga.

Per *Stuttgart*, for Shanghai, from Bremen, Miss F. Larsen, 6 officers, 34 petty officers and 25 sailors of the German Navy; from Southampton, Messrs. R. Packham and W. McCrone; from Genoa, Messrs. O. Lidner, R. Leder, G. Bergouzone, G. Volmajiv, H. J. Moll and five officers of the German Navy; from Naples, Dr. Undra; from Colombo, Mr. Teppo; from Singapore, Mr. Adler; from Hongkong, Messrs. A. Grossmann and A. C. Duffner; for Nagasaki, from Colombo, Mr. M. Mane; for Yokohama, from Genoa, Mr. O. Seilzer; from Colombo, Mr. P. Carew.

Printed and published by ALFRED CUNNINGHAM for the Concerned, at 9, Praya Central, City of Victoria, Hongkong.

Swedish Bar	7.75	to	—
Small Round Rod	6.00	to	—
Hoop 1 to 1 1/2 in.	8.25	to	—
Wire 15/25	9.00	to	—
Old Wire Rope	2.50	to	—
Lead, L. B. & Co. and Hole Chop	10.25	to	—
Australian	10.10	to	—
Yellow M'tal—Muntz 14/20 oz.	41.00	to	—
Vivian's 14/20 oz.	40.50	to	—
Elliot's 14/20 oz.	40.00	to	—
New Chop, 14/20 oz.	—	to	—
Composition Nails	60.00	to	—
Japan Copper, Slabs	39.00	to	—
Tin	78.00	to	—
per box.			
Tin-Plates	7.75	to	—
per cwt. case			
Steel 1 to 1 1/2	7.00	to	—
SUNDRIES—per picul			
Quicksilver	168.00	to	—
per box.			
Window Glass	6.50	to	—
per 10-gal. case			
Kerosene Oil	2.86	to	—

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 29th June.—The market continues dull and inactive and business restricted to very few stocks whilst rates in most cases show a further decline. The crisis in the north as reported last week remains the cause of the existing depression and no improvement can be looked for until affairs get more settled.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have ruled very quiet and without any business, closing at the nominal rate of 300, whilst the London rate has fallen to £53. Nationals continue steady but without business.

MARINE INSURANCES.—A fair business has been done in China Traders at \$55, 56 and 57, the stock closing with sellers at the latter rate. Unions have been placed in small lots at \$262 1/2 and Cantons at 142 1/2. Straits and the Northern Insurances have ruled quiet and without business. Quotations of the latter are taken from the latter Shanghai Circulars.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Both Hongkong and China remain dull and neglected with only a small business in the latter at \$79 to report.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong Canton and Macao after further small sales at \$31 1/2 have declined to \$30, at which rate shares are now obtainable. Indos have ruled quiet with a small business at \$84 cash and at \$90 for 81st December. Douglases continue on offer at \$47 without inducing buyers to come forward and it is probable that an offer of a point lower would bring a few shares on the market. China Mutuals prefer. have found buyers at £11 and more could be placed at that rate. China Manilas continue dull and neglected. Star Ferries unchanged and without business.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have been placed at \$120. Luzons continue totally neglected.

MINING.—Panjoms continue to rule quiet with sellers at \$5.75 and no sales to report. Jelebus have changed hands at \$12. Raubs at \$58 and \$57, and Olivers and Great Easterns in small lots at quotations.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks continue quiet with a tendency to weakness. Offers to sell at \$520 have met with no response and the market close quiet at that rate. Kowloon Wharfs have been placed in small lots at \$85, closing at \$84 1/2 sellers. Wanchais unchanged and without business.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have ruled much easier with sales at \$137, \$136 and \$135. Market, however, closes rather firmer with sales and buyers at \$136 on time. A small parcel was placed at 138 1/2 for August. Hotels continue unaccountably quiet with only small sales at \$122, closing quiet with sellers at that rate. West Points have found buyers at \$47 1/2 and \$47, closing with buyers at latter rate, while sales have been effected with at \$49 for September, delivery. Humphreys have found small buyers at \$10.75 and close steady at that rate. Kowloon Lands continue on offer at \$25 1/2 without business.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Islands have declined to 20 1/2 with small sales. China Borneos are enquired for at \$28. Watkins, Watsons, Electric, Ices, and Dairy Farms have changed hands at quotations in small lots.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai.	\$125	300 p. ct. prem. =
China & Japan, ordy.	24	21.
Do. deferred	21	25 5s.
Natl. Bank of China		
B. Shares	28	\$27, buyers
Foun. Shares	28	\$20.
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	21	\$13, sellers
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$20, ex div. buyers
China Prov. L. & M.	\$10	\$9.90, sellers
China Sugar	\$100	\$120, sales
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 60.
International	Tls. 100	Tls. 60.
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 60.
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 375.
Yahloong	Tls. 100	Tls. 40.
Hongkong	\$100	\$37, sellers
Dairy Farm	\$8	\$8 1/2.
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$48, buyers
Green Island Cement	\$10	\$20 1/2.
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$50.
Hongkong & C. Gas	\$10	\$118, ex div.
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$11.85, sales & sels.
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$170, buyers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$122, sellers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$165, sellers
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$84 1/2, sellers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$170.
H. & W. Dock	\$125	520 p. ct. prem. =
Insurance—		
Canton	\$50	\$132 1/2, sales
China Fire	\$20	\$79, sellers
China Traders'	\$25	\$57.
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$295, sellers
North-China	\$25	Tls. 165.
Straits	\$20	\$1, buyers
Union	\$50	\$262 1/2.
Yangtze	\$60	\$121, sellers
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$50	\$136, buyers
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$10.75, sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$80	\$25 1/2, sellers
West Point Building	\$50	\$47, buyers
Luzons Sugar	\$100	\$36.
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$290, sellers
Gt. Estn. & C'donian	\$3	45 cents sellers
Do. Preference	\$1	40 cents
Jelebu	\$5	\$12, sales
Queen's Mines Ltd.	25c.	\$15, cts., buyers
Olivers Mines, A.	\$5	\$24.
Do. B.	\$4 1/2	\$24.
Panjom	\$7	\$54, sellers
Do. Preference	\$1	\$1.30.
Raubs	16s. 10d.	\$57.
New Amoy Dock	\$64	\$21, sellers
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila	\$50	\$85, old
China Mutual Prof.	\$10	\$118, sellers
China Ordinary	\$10	\$11, sales
Do.	\$5	\$10, sales
Do.	\$5	\$25, 5s., buyers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$47, sellers
H., Canton and M.	\$15	\$80 1/2, sellers
Indo-China S. N.	\$10	\$84, sellers
Shell Transport and Trading Co.	\$100	\$300, sellers
Star Ferry	\$10	{ \$17 1/2, old sellers
Tebrau Planting Co.	\$5	{ \$44, new sellers
Do.	\$3	\$5, sellers
United Asbestos	\$4	\$3.
Do.	\$10	\$84, sales
Wanchai Warehouse	\$37 1/2	\$11, buyers
Watkins, Ltd.	\$10	\$56, buyers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$10.
	\$10	\$15 1/2, buyers

J. Y. V. VERNON, Broker.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

FRIDAY, 29th June.

EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	2/0
Bank Bills, on demand	2/0 1/2
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	2/0 1/2
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	2/0 1/2
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2/0 1/2
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	2/0 1/2
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	2.51 1/2
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2.56
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	2.04 1/2
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	48 1/2
Credits, 60 days' sight	49 1/2

ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	149 1/2
Bank, on demand	150 1/2
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	149 1/2
Bank, on demand	150 1/2
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	71
Private, 30 days' sight	72
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	2 1/2 p. o. pm.
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	2 p. o. pm.
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	4 p. o. pm.
ON BATAVIA.—	
On demand	120 1/2
ON HAIPHONG.—	
On demand	2 1/2 p. o. pm.
ON SAIGON.—	
On demand	3 p. o. pm.
ON BANGKOK.—	
On demand	60
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	9.88
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	53.00
RAR. SILVER, per oz.	28 1/2

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

FOR LIVERPOOL DIRECT.—	Ulysses (str.).
FOR LONDON.—	Bengal (str.), Beaulder (str.),
Mazagon (str.), Stentor (str.), Menckaus (str.).	
FOR MARSEILLES.—	Laos (str.), Mazagon (str.).
FOR BREMEN.—	Bayern (str.).
FOR HAVRE AND HAMBURG.—	Alesia (str.),
Wittenberg (str.), Savoia (str.), Sambia (str.).	
FOR VICTORIA, B.C.—	Glenogle (str.).
FOR VANCOUVER VIA SHANGHAI.—	Empress of Japan (str.).
FOR PORTLAND, O.—	Argyll (str.).
FOR SAN FRANCISCO.—	Gaelic (str.), Hongkong
Maru (str.), City of Peking (str.).	
FOR NEW YORK.—	Albenga (str.), Armenia (str.),
Acara (str.), Ettrickdale (str.), L. Schepp.	
FOR SAN DIEGO AND KOBE.—	Thyra (str.).
FOR AUSTRALIA.—	Chingtu (str.).
FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG AND BOMBAY.—	Bisagno (str.).
FOR SINGAPORE, SAMARANG, AND SOERABAYA.—	Onsang (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

June—	
ARRIVALS.	
22, Loyal, German str., from Samarang.	
23, Valkyrien, British bark, from Peiyang.	
23, Phranang, British str., from Bangkok.	
23, Ragnar, Norw. str., from Chinkiang.	
23, Lyceemon, German str., from Shanghai.	
23, Zafiro, Amr. des. ves., from Manila.	
23, Anping Maru, Jap. str., from Arping.	
23, Argyll, British str., from Portland.	
23, Guthrie, British str., from Foochow.	
23, Hermes, Norwegian str., from Hongay.	
23, Yawata Maru, Jap. str., from Melbourne.	
23, Vale of Doon, British bark, from Rajang.	
24, China, German str., from Saigon.	
24, Glenogle, British str., from Tacoma.	
24, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.	
24, Jason, British str., from Penang.	
24, Taisang, British str., from Shanghai.	
24, Tategami Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.	
24, Onsang, British str., from Saigon.	
24, Quarta, German str., from Saigon.	
24, Kintuck, British str., from Singapore.	
24, Calanda, Norw. str., from Colombo.	
24, Formosa, British str., from Taiwanfoo.	
24, Apenrade, German str., from Haiphong.	
25, Amara, British str., from Java.	
25, Ariake Maru, Jap. str., from K'netzu.	
25, Diamante, British str., from Manila.	
25, Hunan, British str., from Canton.	
25, Clara, German str., from Pakhoi.	
25, Hue, French str., from Haiphong.	
25, Cheang H. Kian, British str., from Straits.	
25, Foochow, British str., from Chinkiang.	
25, Fushun, Chinese str., from Shanghai.	
25, Hokoku Maru, Jap. str., from Chinkiang.	
26, Else, German str., from Chefoo.	
26, Kwangping, Chinese str., from Taku.	
26, Haimun, British str., from Swatow.	
26, Pigmy, British gunboat, from Manila.	
26, Yuensang, British str., from Manila.	
26, Futami Maru, Jap. str., from Nagasaki.	
26, Chowfa, British str., from Bangkok.	
26, City of Peking, Amr. str., from S. F. cisco.	
26, Stuttgart, German str., from Bremen.	
26, Decima, German str., from Canton.	
26, Antenor, British str., from Foochow.	